GRAND HOTEL,
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THE
PALL MALL
GAZETTE

MAGGI
v.
Influenza!
MAGGI is prescribed against the
AFTER Effects of INFLUENZA
AS A
General Strengthener,
ESPECIALLY AGAINST
WEAKNESS of the HEART.

No. 7763.—Vol. L. *TUESDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 4, 1890.* *Price One Penny.*

TO-NIGHTS ENTERTAINMENTS.

DRURY LANE (The National Theatre).

TWICE DAILY, at 1.30 and 7.15, AUGUSTUS HARRIS'S Pantomime, JACK AND THE BEANSTALK, produced on a scale of splendour surpassing in magnificence the displays offered to the public by Mr. AUGUSTUS HARRIS in previous years, and performed by a Company of Comedians each of whom is an acknowledged attraction in himself—Messrs. Nicholls, Leno, Lauri, jun., Griffiths Brothers, Conquest, jun., Leopold Brothers, A. [illegible], Payne (Clown), and Campbell; Misses Vernon, Faudelle, Hewitt, Ænea, and Duggan. Box-office open from 10 A.M. all day.

HAYMARKET THEATRE.

(Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. BEERBOHM TREE.)

EVERY EVENING, at 8.30, A MAN'S SHADOW by ROBERT BUCHANAN. Mr. TREE as LAROQUE and LUVERSAN. Messrs. Fernandez, Kemble, C. Collette, E. M. Robson, Allan, Hargreaves, Tapping, Gurney, Harwood; Miss Julia Neilson, Miss Minnie Terry, Miss Norreys, and Mrs. Tree. At 7.45, GOOD FOR NOTHING: Miss Norreys. Doors open 7.30. Box-office open 10 till 5. Pit Circle (unreserved) 2s 6d. Gallery 1s.

MATINEE of A MAN'S SHADOW SATURDAY NEXT, and following Saturday, at 2.30.

TO-MORROW (Wednesday) at 2.30, SPECIAL MATINEE of THE MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR. Mr. TREE as FALSTAFF.

LYCEUM THEATRE.

(Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. HENRY IRVING.)

THE DEAD HEART—A Story of the French Revolution. TO-NIGHT at Eight o'clock (110th time). Mr. Henry Irving, Mr. Bancroft, Mr. Stirling, Mr. Righton; Miss Phillips, and Miss Ellen Terry. Box office (Mr. J. Hurst) open daily 10 to 5. Seats can also be booked by letter or telegram. Carriages, 10.45.—LYCEUM.

CRITERION THEATRE.

(Lessee and Manager, Mr. CHARLES WYNDHAM.)

TO-NIGHT, at 8.15, CYRIL'S SUCCESS. Messrs. David James, Leonard Boyne, Arthur Elwood, S. Buist, G. Maxwell, H. Saker, G. B. Phillips, G. Stanton, G. Chapuy; Mesdames Olga Brandon, Compton, F. Frances, E. Brunton, E. Vining.

GAIETY THEATRE.

TO-NIGHT, at 8 punctually, RUY BLAS AND THE BLASE ROUE. Miss Ellen Farren, Miss Marion Hood, Miss Sylvia Grey, Miss Linda Verner, Miss Blanche Massey, and Miss Letty Lind; Mr. Fred Leslie, Mr. Fred Storey, Mr. Dalton Somers. Doors open at 7.30.

TOOLE'S THEATRE

Last seven nights of Mr. J. L. TOOLE prior to his departure for Australia.

TO-NIGHT at 8.15, CHAWLES; OR, A FOOL AND HIS MONEY, and OFF THE LINE. At 7.30, HESTER'S MYSTERY. Doors open at 7. WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, and FRIDAY, PAUL PRY, and THE SPITALFIELDS WEAVER. SATURDAY NEXT at 2 and 8.15, THE SERIOUS FAMILY, and OFF THE LINE. Box-office open daily 10 to 6. THE BUNGALOW, by FRED. HORNER, THIS AFTERNOON.

ADELPHI THEATRE.

A. and S. GATTI, Sole Proprietors and Managers.)

THIS EVENING, at 8.0, LONDON DAY BY DAY Immense success. 1[illegible]4th Night. Mr. George Alexander, Messrs. Marius, J. L. Shine, Lionel Rignold, W. L. Abingdon, Arthur Lyle, Theo. Balfour, M. Bode, H. Russell, James East, W. Northcote, J. Northcote, &c.: Mesdames Alma Murray, Mary Rorke, Kate James, Charlotte Elliot, and Clara Jecks. Doors open at 7.0. THE MARRIED BACHELOR, at 7.15.

VAUDEVILLE THEATRE.

(Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. THOMAS THORNE.)

THIS EVENING at 8, THE SCHOOL FOR SCANDAL. Messrs. Fred Thorne, T. B. Thalberg, C. Maude, F. Gillmore, J. S. Blythe, C. Harbury, F. Grove, O. Yorke, &c., and John Maclean; Mesdames Winifred Emery, Mary Collette, L. Bryer, Hanbury, &c., and Coralie Owen. MATINEE SATURDAY NEXT, at 2.30.

THURSDAY NEXT, at 2.30, MATINEE of CLARISSA. New Drama, in Four Acts, by ROBERT BUCHANAN.

THE GLOBE THEATRE.

(Lessee and Manager Mr. F. R. BENSON.)

EVERY EVENING at 8 (Thursdays and Fridays excepted), doors open 7.30, overture 7.45. A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM, with the Mendelssohn Incidental Music.—Messrs. Price, Brydone, Benson, Ross, Howard, Athol Forde, Black, Weir, Phillips, Tomkins, Grenville, Stuart; Mesdames Grey, Ferrar, Rorke, Geraldine, Townsend, Woolgar Mellon, Mitchelmore. MATINEES EVERY WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY at 2.30. N.B.—THE TAMING OF THE SHREW on THURSDAY and FRIDAY EVENINGS at 8.

PRINCESS'S THEATRE.

MASTER AND MAN.

TO-NIGHT at 7.45, HENRY PETTITT and GEORGE R. SIMS powerful play, MASTER AND MAN, in which the following popular artists will appear:—Messrs. Henry Neville, J. H. Barnes, Robert Pateman, E. W. Gardiner, Sidney Howard, Charles Dalton, Bassett Roe, Fred Shepherd, George Dalziel, E. Mayeur, E. Webster Lawson; Miss Nellie Lingard, Mrs. Frank Huntley, and Miss Bella Pateman. Doors open 7.15. Commence 7.45. Box-office (Mr. A. Frye) open daily from ten till five. Seats at all the libraries.

PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE.

(Lessee and Manager, Mr. HORACE SEDGER.)

TO-NIGHT, at 8.30, MARJORIE. Misses Phyllis Broughton, Mdme. Amadi and Miss Camille d'Arville; Messrs. C. Hayden Coffin, Joseph Tapley, Henry Ashley, Frederick Wood, Albert James, T. A. Shale, A. T. Hendon, and Harry Monkhouse. Preceded at 7.45 by JOHN SMITH. Morning Performance EVERY SATURDAY at 2.30.

GARRICK THEATRE.

(Lessee and Manager, Mr. JOHN HARE.)

THIS EVENING at eight, LA TOSCA. (LAST WEEKS.) Mesdames Bernard Beere, Rose Leclercq, Bessie Hatton; Messrs. Lewis Waller, Herbert Waring, Sidney Brough, Gilbert Farquhar, Lawrance D'Orsay, C. Dodsworth, C. Hudson, F. H. Knight, F. Powell, R. Power, S. Pringle, R. Harding, and J. Forbes Robertson. Address applications for seats to Box-office, open from 10 A.M. to 5 P.M. Doors open at 7.30 P.M.

SHAFTESBURY THEATRE.

Messrs. E. S. WILLARD and JOHN LART, Lessees and Managers. Proprietor, Mr. JOHN LANCASTER.

THIS EVENING at 8, THE MIDDLEMAN.

Mr. Willard, Messrs. Mackintosh, E. W. Garden, H. Cane, H. V. Esmond, Ivan Watson, Cecil Crofton, Royston Keith; Mesdames Maude Millett, Annie Hughes, E. H. Brooke, Agnes Verity, St. Ange, Eva Moore, &c. Box-office now open daily, 10 to 5. Doors open 7.40. Carriages 11. Acting Manager, Mr. W. H. GRIFFITHS.—SHAFTESBURY THEATRE.

LYRIC THEATRE.

(Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. HENRY J. LESLIE.)

TO-NIGHT, at 8.20, THE RED HUSSAR. Mesdames Marie Tempest, Birdie Irving, Maud Holland, H. Coveney, and Florence Dysart; Messrs. Ben Davies, Alec Marsh, Albert Christian Frank M. Wood, and Arthur Williams. Preceded at 7.30 by WARRANTED BURGLAR PROOF.

COMEDY THEATRE.

TO-NIGHT and EVERY EVENING at 9 P.M., the celebrated Comedy PINK DOMINOS, adapted by JAMES ALBERY, with powerful cast, including Messrs. Herbert Standing, Alfred Maltby, A. Boucicault, &c., and C. H. Hawtrey; Mesdames Goldney, Robertson, Cowell, Alma Stanley, and Rose Saker; preceded, at 8, by ONE SUMMER NIGHT, by F. W. Broughton. Box office open daily from 10 A.M. to 10 P.M. Telephone, 3,724.

COURT THEATRE.

(Proprietors, Mrs. JOHN WOOD and Mr. ARTHUR CHUDLEIGH.)

TO-NIGHT at 9, 152nd performance of AUNT JACK. Mr. Arthur Cecil, Mr. Weedon Grossmith, Mr. Eric Lewis, Mr. F. Mervin, Mr. Fred Cape, Mr. A. Aynesworth, Mr. W. Phillips, Mr. F. Farren, Mr. Powell, Mr. W. Quinton; Miss Rosina Filippi, Miss Florence Wood, and Mrs. John Wood. At 8.15, TO THE RESCUE, Mr. R. Boleyn, Mr. F. Farren, Miss F. Harrington and Mrs. Phelps.

NOTICE.—SPECIAL MATINEE of AUNT JACK SATURDAY NEXT, February 8th. Doors open 2, commence at 2.30.

AVENUE THEATRE.

TO-NIGHT, at 8·15, FOOL'S MATE. At 9 o'clock, DR. BILL.

Messrs. Frederick Terry, Nutcombe Gould, Benjamin Webster, George Capel, Henry Grattan, R. V. Shone, and Albert Chevalier; Mesdames Robins, Carlotta Leclercq, Marie Linden, Mary Kingsley, Gracie Murietta, Laura Graves, Edith Kenward and Fanny Brough. Doors open 7.45.

MORNING PERFORMANCE on SATURDAY NEXT and EVERY SATURDAY at 2.30. Doors open 2 o'clock.

Box office open daily from 10.30 till 5.

Business Manager, Mr. R. D'ALBERTSON.

ROYALTY THEATRE.

TO-NIGHT at Nine o'clock, TRA LA LA TOSCA. A per-version of "La Tosca," by F. C. BURNAND. Music by FLORIAN PASCAL. Messrs. ARTHUR ROBERTS, G. B. Prior, Augustus Wheatman, &c.; Miss Margaret Ayrtoun, Miss Agnes Delaporte, Miss Amy Liddon, Miss Laura Hansen, Miss Hettie Bennett, &c. Preceded at 8.15 by THE OPERA CLOAK. Doors open 7.45. Box-office open daily 10.30 to 5. Telephone No. 3,855. MATINEE EVERY SATURDAY at 2.30. Business Manager, Mr. H. WATKIN.

ALHAMBRA VARIETY THEATRE.

"ASMODEUS," at 9 o'clock, and "OUR ARMY AND NAVY," at 10.50. Signorina Bessone; Mdlles. Saracco, Marie, Thurgate, and Spotti, and Signor De Vicenti. Varieties by BIBB and BOBB, the Sisters Milton, M. Star and Mdlle. Lylia, Arthur Tinsley, Arthur Corney, the Almonti Troupe, Marie Collins, the Eddy's Troupe, Lotto, Lilo, and Otto, and JAMES FAWN. Open 7.45 until 11.30.

EMPIRE THEATRE.

Commence at 8. Two Grand Ballets. At 9.0 THE PARIS EXHIBITION. At 10.30, A DREAM OF WEALTH, by M. KATTI LANNER. Music by M. LEOPOLD WENZEL. Mdlles. Palladino and Bettina de Sortis, Signor Albertieri and Signorina Malvina Cavalazzi. Grand Variety Entertainment. At 10, Miss Amy Roselle will recite Lord TENNYSON'S Poem, THE CHARGE OF THE LIGHT BRIGADE. Exclusive engagement of Mdlle. VANONI TO-NIGHT, at 10.15. No free list.

ROYAL, Holborn.

GRAND HOLIDAY PROGRAMME.—Special engagement of Lockhart's performing Elephants. G. H. Macdermott, the popular actor and vocalist; Lydia Yeamans, queen of song; Bibb and Bobb the funny Continental clowns; the Mannons, in a novel musical absurdity; Yosituro, the wonderful Jap; the Brantfords, American variety artists; Ottaway and Pepper; Abe Daniels, musical clown; Jesse Phillips, Dora Fielding, Arthur Tinsley, Petrot, the marvellous mimic; Arthur Ring; May and Laverne, statuesque dancers; Sam Torr, and others.

EVENINGS at 7.20: SATURDAY MATINEES, 2.30. Prices of admission from 6d. to £2 2s.

MR. PARNELL'S VICTORY.

Is the *finale* of Mr. PARNELL'S case against the *Times* a victory, or a defeat, or a drawn battle? Of course, in any case, we have all agreed by this time to put a brave face on it, and to herald it forth as a victory for our side. But there is no denying that when the unexpected collapse of the case was first announced yesterday, the feelings of satisfaction were rather on the Unionist side, than on our own. They, it seemed, had everything to lose, we everything to gain, by fighting the thing through to the bitter end. Hence wherever two or three Liberals were gathered together yesterday, there were long faces or puzzled heads. Rightly or wrongly, reasonably or unreasonably, it was felt by most of the ardent spirits on our side that a splendid chance had been thrown away, or that the enemy had been let off too lightly, or more vaguely that "there was something wrong somewhere." This view of the matter was natural, we do not doubt. It was very widely held, we know. That it was entirely erroneous, we shall now proceed to show.

In the first place a verdict is a verdict, and £5,000 damages is a very substantial sum. Mr. PARNELL has triumphantly cleared his character. The *Times* has conspicuously confessed its offence, and not even Lord SALISBURY will have any shred or patch of an excuse henceforth for pretending that PIGOTT'S forgery is still an open question. Nor will even the most irresponsible Unionist of the basest sort have any excuse for asserting that, PIGOTT'S forgeries notwithstanding, Mr. PARNELL'S character is not worth a farthing. Every one must know personally vindictive or merely foolish Unionists, whose cue it has been to say, since PIGOTT collapsed, that if Mr. PARNELL did not write those letters, he undoubtedly wrote others just like them. This was the sort of line which the *Times* itself took when it paid 40*s.* into court, asserting thereby that Mr. PARNELL had no political character to lose, and that a couple of sovereigns would therefore be an ample solatium. That line of argument is no longer open even to the most mean or foolish of the Unionists. The *Times* has thought better of it, and has gone cap in hand to Mr. PARNELL asking him to accept not merely substantial, but most exemplary damages. Two things, therefore, have been amply secured by the settlement in the case. First, the famous, or infamous, "PARNELL letters" have been once and for all stamped by their own publishers as atrocious libels. Secondly, Mr. PARNELL'S political character has been confessed by his traducers to stand so high as to imperatively call for the payment of exemplary damages. Nor is that all, for Mr. PARNELL'S damages are net, not gross. For the *Times* will, it is understood, pay not merely his taxed costs—not merely such costs, that is to say, as follow a verdict, but all the expenses he has actually incurred. These, of course, have been very heavy, and should in any estimate of the matter be added to the damages. Mr. PARNELL has, therefore, won a complete victory, moral and material alike; and he has obtained, without a blow, all, and more than all, that most litigants can only hope to obtain after a long and wearisome struggle. It is a curious instance of the triumph of sentiment over common sense that this result should have been regarded even for a moment as anything but a signal success.

The sentiment in question is based on two misconceptions—one personal, the other political. Any Liberal who feels any disappointment at the settlement of the case misconceives both Mr. PARNELL'S character and the circumstances of the case. The average Englishman loves above all things to see a good fight; hence when the *Times* people threw up the sponge and Mr. PARNELL allowed them to go off unpunished except in pocket, the ordinary onlooker felt as if he had been defrauded of his due. Also, the natural man, English or otherwise, is a vindictive animal; hence he was at a loss to imagine why in the world Mr. PARNELL had forgone his opportunity of pursuing the *Times* to the bitter end. The explanation is simple. Mr. PARNELL is not a political bruiser, and he is the least vindictive of men. If left to himself, or rather if the matter had remained a purely personal one, he would never have proceeded against the *Times* at all. Having on public grounds taken action, Mr. PARNELL was Mr. PARNELL all over in rejoicing to be done with it as soon as possible. "But," it will be objected, "there were political issues at stake: there was 'the foul conspiracy' to be unmasked." It is here that the second misconception comes in. The case, so far as the sifting of any political issues was involved, was settled weeks ago when the judges ruled against Mr. PARNELL and declined to allow his interrogatories on the origin of the libels. The door into that dark passage which the Commissioners locked once was double-locked again by the Judges. It is Parliament, and Parliament alone, that can now let in the light. To that Parliamentary inquest Mr. PARNELL will carry all the prestige of a conqueror, and of a conqueror who has known how to use his victory with moderation and without vindictiveness.

THE DUTCH PARNELL AND HIS LEAGUE.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT IN SOUTH AFRICA.)

EVERY one who visits Cape Town is told to go and see the Paarl. The Paarl is a sort of small Dutch capital thirty miles or so away. What Manchester was to the Liberalism of Cobden, what Birmingham was to the Radicalism of a later date, the Paarl is or was to the Afrikanderism of Cape Colony—a source, a stronghold, a local habitation, and a name. People who visit the little township are apt to suppose that they there see the typical Afrikander. That is to make a mistake too common in South Africa—to confuse, that is, town life with village life.

I.—THE DUTCH NATIONAL LEAGUE AT HOME.

A long village in a narrow valley, one side of which rises into a mass of granite: one single eight-mile street of "detached villa residences," each in its own *erf* of some acres of garden or vineyard, sloping down to the river or back to the hills—that is the Paarl, the headquarters of the Bond, the Mecca of the Afrikander, the place good Dutchmen go to when they retire from business. The district grows wine; the town makes waggons. But, for most of the residents at the Paarl, to drink the one and to ride in the other is enough exertion

> In the afternoon they came unto a land
> Wherein it seemed always afternoon.

These lines might have been written of the Paarl. Most of the burghers are good honest folk—great judges of wine, great connoisseurs of suppie—who have done their work and settled down to the fruits thereof. And the fruits are these: to eat, to sit, to smoke in the stoep, and to sleep—above all to sleep. Here is the true Sleepy Hollow. The palace of the Sleeping Beauty was not drowsier during the hundred years. I believe I may plume myself on having bestowed upon the Paarl the boon of a new sensation. It was in the dead of that solemn hour after the mid-day meal, when in the Paarl every man, woman, and child, with their horses and their dogs and all that is theirs, lies behind drawn blinds, hushed, satiated, asleep, until the evening and the evening meal. The hot sun poured down on the white houses, and the green gardens and the red dusty street; the great Paarl Rock radiated heat like a firebrick, and the hills on either side shut in the breathless air as in an oven. I was in a hurry; I had more than one call to make; and in a thoughtless moment I RAN. Ran in the Paarl! Then, from behind those drawn blinds the Paarl awoke, and rubbed its eyes, and looked out, open-mouthed, and saw that I ran—and the Paarl laughed.

What I came to inquire of Mr. Du Toit at the Paarl was this: "Are you loyal or disloyal? Is your ultimate goal one with which those who look to England as the mother country can fairly sympathize, or is it, at bottom, separation and alienation?" And who is Mr. Du Toit? The Dutch Question being, as I have said, simply the Nationalist movement of our South African Ireland, one may dub Mr. Hofmeyr its Parnell, the Bond its National League, and Mr. Du Toit, of the *Patriot* newspaper, the editor of its *United Ireland*. The *Zuid Afrikaan*, which will crop up presently, was a more moderate *Freeman's Journal*. But the *Patriot* got up the steam. The brothers Du Toit have had a remarkable career. Born agitators and organizers, they did much to create the power which other hands are wielding. They have now, I believe, built up by their own efforts a comparatively large business. But they began poor and unknown. They had only their idea, their nationalism—and, of course, the disaffection, which we had made, to work on. They bought a hand press, learned composing, and flung their first ideas into type with their own hands. The Dutch farmer found the discontent that was smouldering in his own mind flame forth from the beacon of a paper in his own vernacular. The Bond was the sequel.

"Loyal? The Afrikander Bond was as loyal an institution as any in the Empire." Such was the emphatic declaration of Mr. Du Toit, as we sat exchanging question and answer in his little office. There was nothing sleepy about Mr. Du Toit, by the way: an eager man with sharp, dark eyes. My interlocutor was not the most famous brother, the Rev. S. J. Du Toit, a *predikant* of the Dutch Reformed Church, and subsequently Education Minister to Paul Kruger, who has got into some rather unclerical scrapes, I believe, and is now whipping up Dutch emigrants in Belgium to counteract the too rapid Anglicization of the Transvaal. But the *Patriot*

STAGE AND SONG.

"Cyril's Success"—as the knowing ones prophesied—has failed to attract the public in the direction of the Criterion Theatre. Once more the submarine telegraph has been set at work, and at the word of command from Mr. Charles Wyndham "Our Boys" has been put into rehearsal. Mr. David James will, of course, resume his old part of Perkyn Middlewick, Mr. E. W. Gardiner will migrate from the Princess's to play Talbot Champneys, Mr. Arthur Elwood will be the Sir Geoffrey, and Mr. Leonard Boyne will step into the congenial rôle of Charles Middlewick. The two young ladies of the piece will be acted by Miss Olga Brandon and Miss Fanny Moore. It is to be hoped that this latest addition to the list of the Wyndham-Duck revivals will be more successful than the earlier ones. Theatrical management by cable does not appear to be a very remunerative way of running a playhouse.

* * * * *

Mr. Arthur Roberts has gone through a good deal of trouble with his throat of late. As a consequence he has been out of the bill at the Royalty for the last two or three evenings, and I hear that his medical advisers have recommended him to take a still longer rest.

* * * * *

It would be difficult to find recorded in the annals of pantomime a more miserable collapse than the recent closing of Her Majesty's Theatre. There is no object to be gained at present by preaching on this melancholy text, for the calamity—it is nothing less—carries its own lesson with it. I do trust, however, that a very searching inquiry will be made into the financial history and position of "The Opera, Limited." Nothing less than this will close the disastrous affair in a fitting manner.

* * * * *

When "The Bungalow" resumes its place in the evening programme at Toole's Theatre, it will be preceded by a new one-act poetical play from the pen of Mr. Fred Horner, entitled "Isalda." This little piece, which is of a decidedly serious character, will be found to deal with certain events on the Spanish frontier in the year 177[illegible]. Mr. Bassett Roe and Mr. Matthew Brodie will both be in the cast. On the 14th inst., by the way, "The Bungalow" will be acted for the 150th time, and the occasion will be celebrated with considerable festivity.

* * * * *

Yet another juvenile pianiste has descended upon our shores! This time the phenomenon is of the female sex, and her names are Elsie Maude Stanley Hall. She is barely thirteen years of age, and her playing is really most extraordinary for so young a lady. She has been a public favourite in Australia—her native country—for some time past; in fact, she seems to have secured her first "notice" by a precocious rendering of "Nelly Bly" before she was two years old. I had an opportunity of hearing this clever little musician negotiate works by Chopin, Liszt, Schumann, and Weber the other day, and I venture to prophesy a very distinguished future for her.

* * * * *

Kate Field's Washington—one of the latest products of female journalistic energy in America—gives the following vocal statistics which it claims to have received from Sir Morell Mackenzie:—"I have noticed that the proportionate number of sopranos in a given number of Americans is above the average, while in Germany and in Hungary contraltos seem to predominate. That is to say, in most European countries, in fifty people, the two classes of voice would be equally divided; in America the number of sopranos would be greater in perhaps the proportion of thirty to twenty, and in Germany or Hungary the contraltos might be thirty-five out of the fifty." It would be interesting to know how Sir Morell has arrived at these approximate figures.

* * * * *

Mr. Clement Scott intends travelling with Mr. Toole as far as Brindisi. As a halt of some days will be made at Monte Carlo and Nice, we may not unreasonably expect some picturesque Riviera articles from the ready pen of the *Daily Telegraph's* dramatic critic.

* * * * *

Mr. Gilbert Trent announces a "Dramatic and Musical Recital" at Steinway Hall next Friday afternoon. Among others, Miss Amy Roselle, Miss Rosina Brandram, Miss Hope Temple, Miss Dorothy Dene, Miss Marion Hood, Miss Norreys, Mr. Arthur Cecil, Mr. Eric Lewis, Mr. Albert Chevalier, and Mr. Hayden Coffin have promised to appear, so the programme should be a good one.

* * * * *

An interesting item in the charity performance which Miss Wallis is going to give at the Globe Theatre on the 25th inst. will be a new dramatic poem recited in character by our two cleverest child actresses—Vera Beringer and Minnie Terry. The piece, which has been specially written by Mr. Clement Scott, is called "On the Doorstep," the *dramatis personæ* being a pair of little street-waifs.

* * * * *

Mr. James M. Glover has commenced work upon a new comic opera in three acts. Report speaks highly of the "book," which has been written by Mr. T. L. Clay.

* * * * *

"Clarissa" will at length see the light at a Vaudeville matinée next Thursday.

R. U. E.

editor and Bond secretary was sufficiently unimpeachable authority. It was loyal as could be, he repeated. What they wanted was their own nationality. What did that mean? Formerly they were German or English, or Dutch, or Hollander. They wanted to be all united as Afrikanders—South Africans. They wanted a united South Africa right up to the Zambesi.

"But," I interjected, "so do we," and began to sketch the United Empire of self-governing communities, which is the ideal of the Liberal Imperialist. "That's just our policy," broke in Mr. Du Toit. "But aren't you intransigeant Republicans? Isn't it a President of a separated Republic that you want to unite under?"—"Republicans!" he repeated after me. "You Englishmen talk more Republicanism than we do. Do not many of you say that England will some day be a Republic? Well, I suppose the constitution of the colony will then be Republican, too." An innocent Republicanism enough this, thought I, as Mr. Du Toit avowed it.

We had a few more words to the effect that it was "red tape" the Dutch farmer objected to; that it was Home Rule he wanted, not Separation; that he has now got that, and is at least as free under the Queen's Government in Cape Colony as his cousin under President Kruger's. In what, then, did they of the Bond differ from any patriotic South African who happened to speak English—Mr. Rhodes, for instance? That was what I now wanted to know. Mr. Du Toit professed himself equally at a loss. And indeed Mr. Rhodes has always acted more or less with the Parliamentary leaders of the Bond; and he and Mr. Hofmeyr, as they have both assured me, are intimate personal friends. The fact is, that every Englishman in Cape Colony—at least every one with the same farming interests as his Dutch neighbour—ought to join the Bond. Then there could be no more misunderstanding about it. Mr. Du Toit promises to welcome the accession. He must, of course, print the *Patriot* in both languages. "The war between the races" says Mr. Hofmeyr, "is now only a paper war;" but the *Patriot* is said to do the Dutch part of the recrimination. I shall yet hope to see a bilingual *Patriot* addressing the members of a bilingual Bond. So far Mr. Du Toit. "Aliquid majora canamus."

II.—The Parnell of the Dutch.

Jan Hofmeyr is a man of about forty-six; tall, large, and spectacled. Educated, like all the politicians and jurists of South Africa, at the South African College, he created, owned, and made his mark by writing for, the *Zuid Afrikaan.* His connection with the paper has now ceased. But in the Transvaal times it was Mr. Hofmeyr and his *Zuid Afrikaan* which voiced the sentiment of Dutch Cape Colony; and his first big speech in Parliament gave expression to their gratitude for England's generosity in making the memorable peace. Since then Mr. Hofmeyr, as the acknowledged leader of the Bond, has been a sort of Hartington and Parnell rolled into one. Shrewd, cautious, moving straight to his goal, strong in the allegiance of a party than which Mr. Parnell's is not a more precise parliamentary machine, he has pulled the wires of South African politics, himself standing in the background, and declining office on the ground of infirm eyesight. Englishmen in the colony accuse him of playing with its interests into the hands of President Kruger. Englishmen at home have always had a vague idea of him as the wicked agitator, the disloyal, the separatist. It remains to add that at the Colonial Conference Mr. Hofmeyr came out with a proposal of free trade within the Empire, and a differential duty on foreign goods as a provision for Imperial defence.

I found Mr. Hofmeyr sitting under his own vine. I found him, as I have described, shrewd and cautious, but polite, and having a kindly way with him. In a study hung with portraits of the men who led at Laing's Nek and Majuba, he produced a copy of the Bond Constitution in Dutch; and I there and then had the privilege of hearing that Constitution done into English with a running gloss and commentary by the Bond's acknowledged leader and proper spokesman.

The Bond was originally based on the model of a semi-religious organization in Holland, and the Constitution, a prodigious document, leads off with a section affirming that the society "recognizes the finger of God in the affairs of nations." The second section declares for a "pure nationality" (a South African nationality proper, explained the commentator) and a "united South Africa"—"under its own flag" the first draft had added here, and a party strongly upheld it, but Mr. Hofmeyr had sternly pruned the questionable phrase. (This was when the Bond on its present lines was first created-Mr. Hofmeyr amalgamating it with a "Farmers' Protection Association.") What is meant by the "pure nationality" is next defined: to wit, a "union of nationalities"—English being no more excommunicated than Dutch—with a view to "*Zelfstandigheid.*" This is a phrase which has been as much quoted by the enemy, I understand, as the "last link" against Mr. Parnell. "Self-dependence," Mr. Hofmeyr would translate it, "in the sense of being self-contained, self-sufficient, complete in one's own resources." Does any one suspect the rendering here? Wait a moment. This phrase, too, is forthwith expanded into half a dozen saving clauses and epexegetics. The Bond is to put down all "national jealousies" and to foster "South African sentiment" ("as against sentiment that is partisan, you see, whether it be anti-English or anti-Dutch"). The Bond is also to inculcate "patriotism in education, in politics," and in fact in most other fields—this being, I take it, a clear foreshadowing of what the Bond actually did in repairing the neglect of the Dutch language. But here too, as I find in my notes of Mr. Hofmeyr's running translation, there are "give-and-take clauses," importing that each language is to have its fair play and equal treatment. And then the fiscal note is struck, "protection is guardedly indicated," and we get a good bit of Farmers' Association matter—about stock-farming, agriculture, and the like. All this, remember, in elucidation of this tremendous *Zelfstandigheid.* (It is quite characteristic this of the typical Dutch farmer. He hates division of labour, intermixture, and "the higgling of the market;" he tries to have *Zelfstandigheid* on his own farm; *a fortiori* therefore within the State—even in defiance of political economy.) Finally, still as part of this self-containment the Bond patronizes the old burgher law, or citizen militia system, and winds up with what, in brief, is nothing more or less than a declaration for Home Rule in the native question. No very alarming demand that; Sir Gordon Sprigg had just been holding forth to me to the same effect. Indeed, the illustration cited by the Dutch "agitator" was the very one which was also cited by the colonial Premier. A Prison Commission was appointed by the colonial Government. It found that in the "cat" which was (or was not) in use at one particular place where natives were confined, some brutal fellow had twisted in a bit of soda-water bottle wire. Thereon all England was roused against the Cape colonist who habitually flogs the poor black with "cats" made of soda-water bottle wire!

Such, then, is the constitution of the Afrikander Bond. As regards the root purpose and true inwardness of the Bond, the ultimate policy which has worked itself out as the platform of the members as a whole, the witness of Mr. Hofmeyr, the "old parliamentary hand," was the same as the witness of Mr. Du Toit, the untrammelled enthusiast.

III.—The Conclusion of the Whole Matter.

Let me, then, sum up what I believe to be the truth about the Dutch Nationalist movement of Cape Colony. That it had at the outset, that in dwindling members it still has, its extreme party—the party whom Mr. Hofmeyr and his Constitutional friends overruled about the flag—that is undoubtedly true, and represents the bent of necessity given to the young shoot by the soil of disaffection from which it sprang. That there originally was before the eyes of this party some dim, uncertain hope of a Dutch-speaking and Republican South Africa, in which their race and language should no longer be, as they then conceived them to be, trampled contemptuously under foot—that is true also; and for a season the aspiration was natural enough. I would wager that there are rare finds of compromising language awaiting a Hofmeyr Commission, should that ever be appointed at the Cape—language held in the early days by the extreme wing, and by no means publicly repudiated by Mr. Hofmeyr himself. It was touch and go then, I have no doubt, which policy would come to be the dominant policy of the Dutch National League and Nationalist movement. What is quite certain is that the formula of that movement to-day is not Separation, but Home Rule. How has this come about? From two causes. The first is the discovery of gold fields in the Transvaal. It was the Transvaal—the South African Republic as it already called itself—that Dutch Cape Colony looked to as the fountain of the new nationality that was to reign south of the Zambesi when the Englishman was gone. That is past hoping now. At the magic name of gold, in came the flood of English capital, and English energy, and English-speaking men, which threatens in no long space to make the Transvaal more English than Cape Colony. The most intelligent and most educated Afrikanders were the first to grasp the change, men like Hofmeyr himself; like De Villiers, the Chief Justice of Cape Colony; like Kotsë, who holds the same office in the Trausvaal; like Reitz, the President of the Free State; like Esselen, the Transvaal judge and type of the educated young Cape colonist who has there made a career. Men like these, all stalwart Afrikanders from the first, some the recognized leaders of the movement, some until lately English-haters with the best—they have looked the facts in the face and have brought their ideal into touch with the realities of life. I speak not at random—I have seen and talked with all these men face to face I have held, as it were, a symposium upon South African unity. I have discussed with each one of them the problem of reconciling that unity with the retention of the link which binds the colonies to Great Britain. And I can only say that if all Englishmen, or if only one of the great parties in England, were to face that problem in a spirit as hopeful, as practical, and as resolute, it would be very close upon solution.

A strange conversion, you will say? Strange indeed that it were all upon one side, But not even a Dutch Parnell could have converted his party from Separatists into Home Rulers if we had not ourselves met him half-way. That is the second cause of which I spoke. We have sacrificed much in order to deal generously by the Dutch in the Transvaal. We have sacrificed something to give their full self-government to the Dutch in the colony. We have our reward. A pent-up sentiment began to rise and threaten deluge. It now flows quietly and usefully in the channel that betimes we dug for it. When we allowed the Dutch to think that it was impossible to work with us, they wanted to get rid of us and work by themselves. Now that Home Rule is proved able to give them all they want, they have no longer any motive for Separation.

Signs of the fusion of the races are on every hand. In the colony the Dutch are put at a proportion of five to three English. In the Chamber (for which the Bond can nominate as it pleases) Dutch speakers by preference are only thirty-three in the seventy-six, and Dutch speakers perforce only nineteen, The rising generation will all be bilingual. One of the most exclusive old Dutch Reformed churches in Cape Town has recently announced services in English for the young people. Among the best families intermarriage is common. Daily it becomes harder to draw the line of cleavage. Looking down the list of members of the Assembly, you see, for instance, the names "Smith" and "Vintcent." Smith sits for Graaffreinet, is an extreme Bondsman, and cannot speak English. Vintcent is a Hollander; but he was educated in England, and never speaks a word of Dutch. And so in everything. There may be a Dutch question across the Vaal—there is a very interesting one. There is none now in Cape Colony. Every one has become Afrikander, but Afrikander in a new and wider sense. It is indeed, as Mr. Hofmeyr told me, a period of transition. And the great transition is this: that the Afrikander, the man who is to build up the united South Africa of the future, is now no longer the Dutch-speaking, Dutch-thinking Republican of a vanished ideal, but the South African colonist of either strain who recognizes in South Africa his country, and in all South Africans his fellow-subjects.

OCCASIONAL NOTES.

Every one will be glad to hear that Lord Salisbury is well enough to have summoned a Cabinet Council to meet at Arlington-street to-morrow, which he will come up from Hatfield to attend. This is good news, so far as it goes; but it is a great pity that the Prime Minister's friends do not cause some trustworthy statement to be made public on the subject of his health. The obviously incomplete statements made about his so-called attack of influenza had no effect whatever except to set rumours of much more serious things in circulation. Those rumours will certainly not be checked by anything that has happened since.

Now that Mr. Shaw-Lefevre and Mr. Moulton have withdrawn their names from nomination, the election of Mr. Stuart and Sir Vincent Kennett-Barrington to the two vacant aldermanic seats is virtually assured. It will be a good all-round election—Mr. Stuart representing the fighting Progressive element; Sir Vincent representing administrative experience. It is a curious coincidence, by the way, that the two new Aldermen-elect (for so one may safely call them) graduated as Wranglers at Trinity, Cambridge, in the same year.

The Prince of Wales is a shrewd man, who is quite alive to the possibilities of Royalty as a democratic institution. Of this conviction on the part of his Royal Highness, his letter to a Mr. Jenkins, of Rhondda Valley is the latest instance:—

> Mr. Jenkins is quite right in supposing that his Royal Highness is in favour of the principle of working-men magistrates. The Prince of Wales does not, however, possess the privilege of nominating any one to the magisterial bench, as the selection rests alone with the Lord-Lieutenant of the county.

This democratic hint is broad enough surely not to be lost even on the most aristocratic Lord-Lieutenants.

Whatever other charges of "political jobbery" may be laid to the Lord Chancellor's door, he cannot in fairness be accused of any partiality in the matter of appointing Q.C.'s. His list of the other day, even as it then stood, was unexceptionable from that point of view; and now that it is supplemented by two more appointments this morning it errs, if anything, on the Liberal side. Every one knows Mr. Asquith. We congratulate him heartily on his appointment, which has come—not inappropriately—on the morrow of the final collapse of Pigottism. Mr. Lawson Walton also is a Home Ruler, whose judicious retirement from his candidature at Battersea will no doubt be rewarded elsewhere. For a party which, according to Professor Tyndall, has only one-sixth of the intellect of the country at its command, the Gladstonians do pretty well, it must be confessed, at the Bar.

"In looking through some old papers," writes a correspondent, "I have come across a very interesting souvenir of the General Election of 1885. It is a handbill, adorned with the photograph, and issued in the interest of, 'William Grantham, Q.C., M.P., Conservative Candidate for Croydon.' In soliciting the support of the electors of Croydon it asks, 'What have the Conservatives done for the People?' Then follows a list of the legislative achievements due, we are told, to the party represented by the said candidate, among others being that it 'Promoted freedom of combination among workmen by an Act legalizing the employment of peaceful "picketing" in case of strikes.' I venture to think that this statement, urged in support of the successful candidature of 'William Grantham, Q.C., M.P.,' in 1885, will at least prove of interest to those two unlucky Irishmen who, at the recent Liverpool assizes, were sentenced by Mr. Justice Grantham to the utmost penalty allowed by the law for carrying out the principle of 'peaceful picketing' in the Salford Cattle Market in 1889."

The application made by a member of the London County Council at Clerkenwell police court yesterday for summonses against a certain individual for alleged owning and letting insanitary houses incidentally revealed a state of things which can even add somewhat to the already large burden of public opprobrium which London vestrydom has earned for itself. It seems that for years past vestries have had it in their power under the Metropolis Local Management Act to proceed for penalties against the owners of insanitary dwellings, and that this power has been allowed to lie absolutely unused against this one of the most degrading influences that darken the poor side of London life. It is only within the last month or two, when it has been found out that the Act gives power to voluntary inspectors and unofficial citizens to proceed to prosecute, it is only with the knowledge of this that slum owners have been brought to some small extent to book—thanks to the proceedings instituted by unofficial outsiders. From all appearances, had the administration of the Act rested entirely with our local authorities, it might as well never have been passed at all.

Is it possible, asked the Bishop of Chester last night, to run a public house on "wholesome" lines? Certainly it is possible; but whether it is practicable is another matter. A writer in the *National Review* makes some suggestions this month which it may be interesting to cite in full in reply to Dr. Jayne's question. Here are the conditions laid down by the Tory reformer for "the public-house of the future":—

> (1) The bar to be removed altogether, and orders for meat and drink to be given to waiters.
>
> (2) The part in public use must consist of not less than three rooms, namely, a dining room, a smoking-room, and a non-smoking-room. At least three daily papers, at least two weekly papers, and at least two magazines to be found both in the smoking and also the non smoking room.
>
> (3) A library of not less than 100 books to be provided.
>
> (4) Tea, coffee, cocoa, and pure beer (English and German) to be sold on the premises. Wines and spirits strictly prohibited, *and no beer to be sold before 1 p.m.*
>
> (5) Any person, by paying 4*d.* a week, 1*s.* a month, or 9*s.* a year, to be allowed to use the premises freely without being expected either to eat or drink anything for the good of the house; and the same membership to enable him to use any other rooms, such as billiard-rooms, recreation-rooms, &c., &c., as may from time to time be added.

The Bishop of Chester is a man of boldness and originality. Why does he not start a "public" on these lines in Chester?

NEW BOOKS.

POPULAR POETRY.

"The Poets and People of Foreign Lands." By J. W. Crombie. (Elliot Stock.) The title of this little book is somewhat misleading. It consists of essays on popular poetry of the continent—the Folk Songs of Spain; the Royal Moorish poet, Al Motamed; Frederi Mistral; Klaos Groth, the bard of the Ditmarsch, and Staring van den Wildenborch. The writer is fond of exploring the bypaths of verse, and he takes his readers to what will be fresh fields and pastures new to most of them. There is a strange beauty and charm in many of the songs and ballads to which he calls attention, and if he has only touched the borderland of a great subject and induces others to look further for themselves he will have done well. His criticisms are on the whole just, and he succeeds in making his matter thoroughly interesting. Mr. Crombie, who has evidently a real love for literature, is, if we mistake not, anxious to enter the more thorny territory of politics. He has already been selected for a northern constituency, and we trust that he may be successful. More men of his tastes would be a decided acquisition in a House where a "discerning sense of decent and sublime" is sometimes sadly lacking. But this by the way.

THE GOLDEN LAND.

Mr. Samuel Storey, M.P., has been brave enough to hazard the experiment of republishing some newspaper letters from California under the title of "To the Golden Land" (Walter Scott). They are bright and racy productions, and the reader will meet with some new points even in reference to life in well known American cities. Mr. Storey complains of the bad pavement in New York, New Orleans, and other places. At a Prohibition Hotel, he had to send out and buy a corkscrew to draw the cork of a bottle of Apollinaris water. He also notes that a dollar has about the same purchasing power in America as an English shilling. His account of the electrical type setting at the *Tribune* office will interest newspaper people. Iron merchants will be startled by the news that iron and coal exist side by side in some Southern States, and by his speculation that these minerals may succeed where education and the negro have failed in politically fracturing "the solid South." The climate and the crops in California win Mr. Storey's enthusiasm. He waxes eloquent over them, and invalids and emigrants may do worse than take his advice. The State, he says, can absorb "two millions of working families." Land can be bought at from £5 to £10 an acre. He has much to say about land booms, the future of San Diego, and the wonderful flume or artificial leet, thirty-five miles in length, that carries mountain water to this thriving place. When the Isthmus of Panama is canalled California will be only 7,000 miles from London. This is a long journey for an invalid, but it will repay. California, Mr. Storey contends, if mountain sites be selected, is "a land of promise for those threatened with or suffering from consumption, asthma, throat diseases, dyspepsia, or physical prostration. There is no enervating heat in summer, no paralyzing cold in winter, no snow save on the mountains, no frost worth mentioning, no continuous damp and foggy weather." Indeed life is really "worth living." Of his gossip with American notables we need say little. He visited Blaine, Cleveland, Ingersoll, and others. The former said, to Mr. Storey's regret, that "America must have a stronger navy." The book, as we have said, is fresh and readable throughout.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE PRIME MINISTER'S HEALTH.

To the EDITOR *of the* PALL MALL GAZETTE.

SIR,—I feel obliged to point out that you have misinterpreted the paragraph which you quote in part from an article of mine in the *Contemporary Review.* You gather from this paragraph that I have reason to believe, and do indeed "announce," that Lord Salisbury is alarmingly ill. But on a more careful reading you will see that I express no such belief and make no such "statement." What I do say is this: While Mr. Gladstone's disappearance from political life is commonly and openly discussed as likely to have a great effect on the constitution or reconstitution of political parties, "the possibility of another disappearance from this mortal scene is quite disregarded," though it would not improbably be followed by serious political complications. But if the likelihood of such consequences, I proceed to say, has never come under debate in the newspapers and reviews, it is a matter of deep concern in official quarters. "The Prime Minister is not much considered as a centre of stability, but that he is; and his withdrawal from public life would put everything into confusion." Therefore it is that "whenever he falls ill," "whenever he has an unusually bad cold"—(which is not saying that he is mortally ill now, or ill at all)—his colleagues of both sections put on their considering caps with a degree of anxiety that seems unsuspected. It is easy to understand why they should fall to grave thinking; and my intention in referring to their dubitations and speculations was merely to illustrate the argument against Unionist "fusion," as they will see who happen to read my article on that subject, or even the whole paragraph from which your extract was taken. Most certainly I had nothing to say about the Prime Minister's present state of health,—knowing no more than other people; and I am extremely sorry at having been so much misunderstood.—Your obedient Servant,

Kensington, Feb. 3. FREDERICK GREENWOOD.

[But how much do Mr. Greenwood's "other people" know? Some other people know, or pretend to know, a good deal—quite enough, certainly, to have justified Mr. Greenwood's article. He cannot, surely, want us to suppose that he penned his alarmist paragraphs altogether in the air and at random.—ED. *P.M.G.*]

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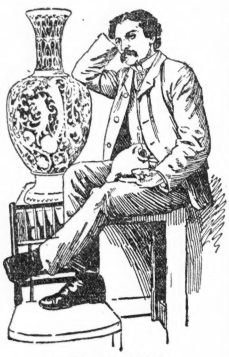
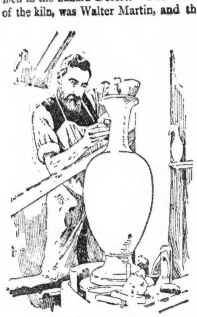
MARTIN-WARE AND THE "MIDDLEMAN."

A "FIRING" AT MESSRS. MARTIN BROTHERS' KILN AT SOUTHALL.

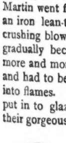


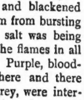
MR. CHARLES MARTIN.



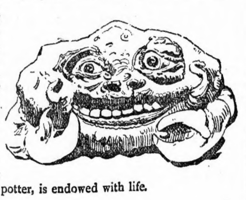
MR. WALTER MARTIN.

WHILE the audience of the Shaftesbury Theatre some evenings ago were following the masterly performance of Mr. Willard in the "Middleman" with enraptured interest, a scene quite as dramatic and more realistically exciting was being enacted at a small pottery within a mile of the Southall Junction of the Great Western Railway Company, owned by Messrs. R. W. Martin and Brothers, four of the greatest of living potters. They were firing a kiln full of that beautiful pottery known as "Martin-ware," which all lovers of the old potter's art take such delight in; and the time for them, as for all potters, was burdened with anxiety. I wanted to see (writes a correspondent) whether a real "firing" was anything like that presented at the "Shaftesbury," and, accordingly, having obtained permission from Mr. Charles Martin, the manager of the London branch of their business, to be present during the final process of "firing off," I made my way to Southall. Their kiln, which stands about a hundred yards from the Grand Junction Canal, is built within an irregular-looking building of stone, cement, brick, iron, and wood; the shaft, which juts out from the centre of the roof for several feet, and the vaporous smoke, which rolls away before the wind to join the scudding clouds, being the only outward and visible signs of its inward fiery presence. On the threshold I met Mr. R. W. Martin, who at once led the way in to the kiln. The heat was so terrific that the atmosphere appeared to be glassy and wavy. Two men stripped to the shirt, and with bared arms and throats, were leaning against the wall; the one resting on a long iron rod, and the other on a coalheaver's shovel. They were grimed with smoke, and dust and clay; perspiration trickled down their arms and faces like rain on the panes of a window; black beads of perspiration clung to their swarthy throats; their hair was matted, and their voices were as the voices of men in the Sahara Desert. The elder of the two, who had entire charge of the kiln, was Walter Martin, and the younger, who was assisting him, was his brother Edwin. They had both been at work in that building, turn and turn about, since Thursday mid-day, and for the last twenty hours Edwin Martin had never left the fires "How can you stand this fearful heat?" I asked. They said that it was "nothing;" and Walter Martin, after having cautioned me to "stand by," opened the door of one of the fires directly opposite to where I was standing, and said, "Now that is heat." It was indeed: he closed the door again in an instant, but not before I felt as though I had been done through and through. Then they began to coal up for the last time before salting off. Each of the five doors at the base of the kiln were opened in quick succession, and large logs of wood and shovels of coal thrown in to feed the fire. Each time a door was opened the heat became well nigh unbearable—the wooden beams and rafters became so hot that I could scarcely bear to touch them; and iron girders and binders warped like warm sealing-wax. Next they mounted a narrow flight of stairs leading to the floor above, from whence they stoked the kiln in five more places, but there the heat was not so fierce. At the base of the kiln it was impossible to get more than about four feet distant from the fires; neither was it possible to stand upright, because the beams and rafters of the floor above were not more than about five feet from the ground, while upstairs there was plenty of breathing-space. As Walter Martin went from firehole to firehole I noticed that he limped painfully; an iron lean-to had fallen overnight, he told me, and struck his foot a crushing blow; and what with the heat and the continual exertion it had gradually become extremely painful. As time wore on the heat grew more and more intense. The beams and rafters scorched and blackened and had to be drenched with salt and water to prevent them from bursting into flames. I looked into the kiln from above, while the salt was being put in to glaze the pottery, and saw the raging fury of the flames in all their gorgeous splendour. The colours were magnificent. Purple, blood-orange, royal red, and sun colour, with here and there a streak of deep-shadowed fawn and grey, were interwoven, combined, and massed together in grand Turneresque harmony. And there, within that living hell, splendid examples of the potter's skill were being fired without protection of any kind. While others protect their wares with "saggers" or "slugs," these potters are content to trust theirs to the most terrible of the elements *in puris naturalibus*. How they can have the courage to run the risk is almost inconceivable. Meantime Walter Martin's foot became worse, and he had to be provided with a stick to lean on while he worked with his right hand; and finally, a pair of crutches were procured for him from a neighbouring cottage. He grew anxious. He had packed the kiln, and only he could fire it off. If an accident happened, or if an error of judgment were committed, four months' work might, and probably would, be either destroyed or rendered valueless. But he stuck to his post like a man; and although occasionally he groaned aloud with agony, he resolutely went round and round the fires, upstairs and down again; shovelled the salt in; tried his proofs; had the fires once more renewed, and superintended the pugging of the fire-holes to exclude the draught. Then, his labours having for the time being come to an end—for it takes five days for the kiln to cool—he was carried by his brothers into the cottage; his foot was dressed, and he was wheeled home on a tricycle to sleep the sleep of the brave and the just.





Martin-ware is a unique and successful revival of the old Grès de Flandres and Grès Céramique—that splendid industry of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. It is unique because there has been no "middleman" concerned in it. From the first these four brothers have designed, thrown, modelled, decorated, fired, and sold their pottery themselves; and it is successful because of its intrinsic beauties, and not in consequence of persistent advertisement. They began as boys, and they continued as men, to experiment in making and firing pottery, until they achieved a deserved success; they have passed through many of the stages of anxiety experienced by Cyrus Blenkarn; they have struggled with adversity, with misfortune, and with want of means; but they have never struggled with the paralyzing influences of the "middleman," and never will. Altogether my experience of real "firing" confirmed my previous opinion that the kiln scene at the "Shaftesbury" is a splendid specimen of realistic stage mechanism, and that the part of Cyrus Blenkarn, the old potter, is endowed with life.



City Notes.

THE NEW NITRATE AGREEMENT.

The new agreement between the nitrate companies has now been completed, the Rosario coming into the arrangement with the others. Instead of absolutely stopping work, as at first proposed, the output is to be reduced proportionately until supply and demand have been equalized. The quota from each oficina is to be based on the output for the past year, and is to be settled by the Nitrate Committee in London in conjunction with the committee in Iquique. A moderate price is aimed at—namely, £9 10*s*. per ton.

THREATENING FRENCH FINANCIERS.

The next step of the French Government with respect to the Société des Métaux is awaited with great interest. A section of the French Cabinet is anxious to make capital out of the case, and for that reason wishes to issue warrants right and left against all connected with it, including certain persons of political and financial distinction. Baron Alphonse Rothschild, who was one of the bankers of the syndicate, threatens if that is done to close his houses in Paris and leave the country. The most hare-brained French politician would hesitate to launch with a light heart into a fight with the Rothschilds. Radicals and Socialists may abuse them at pot-house meetings like those held lately for the purpose of starting an anti-Jewish campaign, but the rentiers have a wholesome dread of men who could, if they liked, knock down Rentes four or five per cent. of a morning. It is significant, however, that the *haute finance* should be so unpopular just now in Paris: almost as much so as financial journalism is in the City. The mob have got it into their heads that the Copper Syndicate, which brought ruin on the second greatest financial institution in France, the Comptoir d'Escompte, were nearly all Jews. There was, on the contrary, not a Jew among them. All were native Frenchmen except one or two Swiss, and perhaps a Belgian. If the threatened prosecutions should go on it is native dirty linen that will come to the wash. So far as the responsible officials of the Comptoir d'Escompte and the Société des Métaux are concerned there is undoubtedly ground to prosecute. The organic laws of the two associations were violated in the most unscrupulous and shameless fashion. We learn from a good source that hardly a single step in the reckless speculation was taken legally. The powers of the directors were systematically exceeded. Resolutions committing the associations to ruinous engagements were adopted at informal meetings; two or three directors "ran the deal" behind the backs of their colleagues, some of whom did not know what a precipice they were near until they fell over. The trials, if they do take place, will be the most sensational on record.

THE LOSSES OF THE UNDERWRITERS.

The losses which have been thrown upon marine underwriters in consequence of the exceptionally severe gales have been tempered by the conviction that the cutting of premiums has reached its limit at last. A succession of very favourable winters has reduced losses at sea to a minimum, and so in the competition for business, underwriters have been induced to quote lower and still lower premiums. The reduction in this way during the past few years has been as much as from 40 to 50 per cent. The occurrence of a devastating storm such as has just occurred is, however, a severe reminder that the cutting process can be carried too far, and that there comes a time when very heavy losses have to be made good. The marine insurance companies have done very well in recent years. The seven companies having their headquarters in Liverpool have, in spite of the fall in the premium, made an average net profit in the past five years of almost 12 per cent. With the return on their invested funds, they have added to their reserves over £200,000, or over 25 per cent. of their capital, and divided 11¾ per cent. on an average. The liabilities underwritten by the seven companies in 1889 amounted to £164,000,000, and the net premiums received £1,062,000, the average rate being 12*s*. 11½*d*. per cent.

The Ladies' Corner.

AN INDIAN OUTFIT.

What a serious matter is an Indian outfit to women who think much of dress! They seem to need as much finery to make them happy as would stock a small shop. I have just inspected twenty dresses (writes a lady representative) which form a small portion of the outfit of a young matron who is going to India. It is no light task to select the materials, the trimmings, and the styles for twenty dresses, to say nothing of the interviews with the dressmaker and the "fittings on." Many of the dresses were very handsome. A butterfly ball dress was the most striking. The dress itself was of black satin veiled with black net. The front of the bodice was formed of a huge jet butterfly; two small butterflies nestled among soft material on the shoulders, and four more were distributed about the skirt. Another dress, of black lace, was heavily trimmed with jet, embroidered on net. This dress had transparent lace sleeves and a Medici collar, but it looked altogether too heavy for wearing in India. A pretty dinner dress was of white silk, with a little gold embroidery arrayed as a zouave on the bodice. The simplicity of this dress was to be varied occasionally by being worn under a transparent skirt of gold tinsel, which harmonized with the embroidery on the bodice. A Greek dinner dress of cream nun's veiling with long sleeves was fastened up carelessly on one side with a silver buckle. A couple of tea-gowns were included among the dresses. One was of cream silk brocaded with pale pink and yellow roses. The front of the gown and the epaulettes were of rose-pink silk. The other tea-gown was a combination of white chiffon and yellow silk. The front of the gown and the outside sleeves were of chiffon, the short sleeves of yellow silk. A very pretty theatre jacket of cream silk, slightly brocaded with carnations had a front of real lace, a picturesque collar and broad revers, kept in place by handsome buttons. There were half a dozen simple dresses of washing silk, in various delicate tints; two of Madras muslin and four or five of coloured cotton. One is of soft, cream-coloured stuff with open-worked stripe. The bodice is trimmed with a little cream embroidery and made to button at the back.

TO-DAY'S NEW BOOKS.

[Publishers would greatly oblige by stating the prices of books. Any notices under this head do not preclude further review should such seem to be necessary.]

ALEXANDER, A. "Modern Gymnastic Exercises." (George Philip and Son.)
[Part II.—Advanced. [illegible] Pp. 218. Illustrations. Price 5s.]

CAINE, HALL. "The Bondman: a New Saga." (William Heineman.)
[A novel in three volumes.]

MOORE, J. M. "New Zealand for the Emigrant, Invalid, and Tourist." (Sampson Low, Marston, and Co.)
[Cloth. Pp. xiii., 254.

RÉMO, FÉLIX. "La Tombeuse." (Paris: Librairie Française et Internationale.)
[A story in one volume. Paper covers. Pp. 310. Price 3 f. 50 c.]

Bord's Pianos.—25 per cent. discount for cash, or 15s. per month (Second-hand, 10s. 6d. per month on the three years' system. Illustrated Lists free of CHAS. STILES and CO., 42, SOUTHAMPTON ROW, HOLBORN, W.C. Pianos exchanged.

Pall Mall Gazette "Extras."

No. 50. THE NEW EXTRA.
NOW READY. CROWN 4to.
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In Coloured Wrapper, with Design by Mr. HARRY FURNISS.

Half-Holidays
AT THE
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Including a Complete Catalogue and Descriptive Notes.

WITH FORTY-TWO CHOICE REPRODUCTIONS.

THE NATIONAL GALLERY AND HOW TO SEE IT.

1st Half-Holiday	EARLY FLORENTINE and SIENESE SCHOOLS.
2nd Half-Holiday	FLORENTINE and FERRARESE SCHOOLS.
3rd Half-Holiday	The UMBRIAN SCHOOL (including RAPHAEL).
4th Half-Holiday	VENETIAN and ALLIED SCHOOLS.
5th Half-Holiday	LOMBARD SCHOOL and the LATER ITALIAN SCHOOLS.
6th and 7th Half-Holidays ...	FLEMISH and DUTCH SCHOOLS.
8th Half-Holiday	The FRENCH and SPANISH SCHOOLS.
9th Half-Holiday	The BRITISH OLD MASTERS.
10th and 11th Half-Holidays...	The LATER BRITISH PAINTERS.
12th Half-Holiday................	The ENGLISH SCHOOL of LANDSCAPE.

List of Illustrations.

BAROCCIO: "Our Lady of the Cat."
BELLINI, GIOV.: The Doge Leonardo Loredano.
BOTTICELLI: Virgin and Child, &c.
CONSTABLE: Flatford Mill.
CORREGGIO: "Ecce Homo!"
" Mercury, Venus, and Cupid.
ETTY: The Bather.
EYCK, JAN VAN: Jan Arnolfini and his Wife.
FRANCESCA, PIERO DELLA: Choir of Angels.
FRANCIA: St. John.
GAINSBOROUGH: Mrs. Siddons.
GREUZE: Head of a Girl.
" Head of a Girl.
HALS, FRANS: Portrait of a Man.
HOGARTH: His own Portrait.
HOOGHE, P. DE: Court of a Dutch House.
LANDSEER, Sir E.: "Dignity and Impudence."
" "A Distinguished Member of the Humane Society."
LEONARDO DA VINCI: "Our Lady of the Rocks."
LESLIE, C. R.: Uncle Toby and Widow Wadman.
MANTEGNA, A.: Virgin and Child, &c.
MARINUS VAN ROMERSWAEL: Two Usurers.
MICHAEL ANGELO: Two Angels.
MORONI: Portrait of a Tailor.
PERUGINO: The Virgin Adoring.
RAPHAEL: The "Ansidei Madonna
" The "Garvagh Madonna.
" St. Catherine of Alexandria.
REMBRANDT: Portrait of an Old Lady.
REYNOLDS, Sir J.: Heads of Angels.
" Dr. Johnson.
" Portraits of Two Gentlemen.
ROMNEY: Lady Hamilton as a Bacchante.
ROSSETTI: "Ecce Ancilla Domini."
RUBENS: The "Chapeau de Paille."
SARTO, ANDREA DEL: His own Portrait.
TITIAN: The Rape of Ganymede.
" Venus and Adonis.
TURNER: The Burial of Wilkie.
" The Old *Téméraire*.
VELAZQUEZ: Philip IV. of Spain.
VERONESE, PAOLO: The Vision of St. Helena.

OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

The MORNING POST says:—"The illustrations are numerous, and, for the most part, excellent photo-engravings of notable works in this magnificent collection."

The DAILY NEWS says:—"The substantial pamphlet with this title which has been added to the long list of '*Pall Mall Gazette* Extras,' is one of the most practical and serviceable of the series. Numberless visitors must have felt the need of a cheap and handy catalogue, giving so much in the way of description or of critical comment as can be conveniently studied in the presence of the pictures. This purpose the pamphlet fulfils admirably, while its directions how to see the collection in twelve half holidays will confer a valuable service on those who visit that precious collection not merely to weary themselves out with staring at paintings, but to carry away some knowledge of their qualities, their story, and their relations to the history of art."

The SPEAKER says:—"The latest *Pall Mall Gazette* 'Extra'—the fiftieth of those useful publications, by the way—forms a much needed popular guide to our great national collection in Trafalgar-square. The general introduction is most suggestively divided into a dozen 'Half-holiday' chapters, and the explanatory catalogue which follows is a model of its kind. Short of Macmillan's larger handbook, which is out of the reach of most people, nothing better than this little volume can perhaps be hoped for. The illustrations are typical and well executed. It is altogether a wonderful sixpennyworth."

The DAILY GRAPHIC says:—"The National Gallery has received the attention of another 'Guide.' The new-comer is a *Pall Mall Gazette* 'Extra,' altogether better printed, illustrated, and produced than any of its long line of predecessors, and admirably adapted to the 'plain man's' use. Provided as it is with an exhaustive catalogue and full index, it is the handiest of all handy guides to our magnificent collection in Trafalgar-square."

VANITY FAIR says:—"The book is carefully compiled and admirably illustrated. This is a capital sixpenny-worth."

PICCADILLY says:—"A useful little book. It is a perfect guide to the Gallery, contains a plan of the rooms, and a 'scheme' by which the casual visitor may see all the best pictures in twelve days. I have no hesitation in saying that the guide to which I am calling attention is far better than the official catalogue."

The STAR says:—"I have just received from the *Pall Mall Gazette* Office a sixpenny 'Guide to the National Gallery,' which is a really wonderful production. The illustrations and arrangement are alike excellent."

The GLASGOW EVENING TIMES says:—"It forms an excellent guide to the systematic inspection of the national art collection. It will be found useful also as an admirable record by those who are quite out of reach of the gallery. The illustrations are numerous and well done."

The SCOTTISH LEADER says:—"The idea of a guide-book to the National Gallery on the plan of a series of half-holiday visits is a good one; and it could not be better carried out than in a '*Pall Mall* Extra.' The 'Half-Holiday Guide' is written with knowledge and enthusiasm, and if the visitor who possesses it returns ignorant and unrefreshed from the National Gallery, he must be past any sort of artistic redemption."

The LITERARY WORLD says:—"This useful handbook plans out a systematic inspection of the treasures of the National Gallery during twelve half-holidays. The illustrations for the most part are well done, and undoubtedly add to the interest of the book."

The NOTTINGHAM EXPRESS says:—"An excellent work of permanent value on the National Gallery. It comprises an excellent plan for systematic and historical study of the art treasures of that institution in twelve half-holidays."

The BELFAST MORNING NEWS says:—"It is a most effective and artistic publication, is a marvel of cheapness, and even to the still larger constituency to whom the opportunities for such "Half-Holidays" are denied must prove a volume of invaluable worth. Almost thirteen hundred paintings come under notice, and in many cases the details given will form a liberal education in art. The illustrations, which number close on fifty, are executed with all the skill and artistic finish with which those who have seen previous Art Guides from the *Pall Mall* Office are perfectly familiar."

THE WESTERN MERCURY says:—"Most practicable and serviceable. It is a handy guide which should be in the hands of every one who visits this priceless collection of works of art. To facilitate study the work has been mapped out into twelve half-holidays, a highly convenient arrangement for the student. The guide will enable visitors to gather and carry away some valuable and highly instructive and interesting ideas of our great national collection."

The BRISTOL EVENING NEWS says:—"As wonderful a sixpennyworth as the 'Pictures of the Year' numbers, published in the summer, and would be as invaluable to the 'country cousin,' who wished to 'do' the National Gallery in one afternoon, as to the more leisurely visitor who can afford the twelve half-holidays provided for by the compiler of the guide book."

The DUBLIN EVENING TELEGRAPH says:—"This work is for the people—comprehensive, instructive, neat, and cheap. What an improvement if all the dear official catalogues would be modelled on the *Pall Mall* Guide."

The HALIFAX COURIER says:—"It contains a large amount of information about the building and the pictures, their authors, styles, excellences, history, cost, &c., and there are about forty illustrations, of course reproductions of the most famous paintings in the gallery. It is a guide for half-holiday visitors, and is certainly well done."

The CORK EXAMINER says:—"Of the many interesting Sixpenny Extras which the *Pall Mall Gazette* has issued, none exceeds in attraction the one which they have published entitled 'Half-Holidays at the National Gallery.' It makes a most interesting guide-book to that collection of great pictures. The National Gallery guide-books have been a disgrace both to the Gallery trustees and to the nation. The *Pall Mall Gazette's* 'Extra' supplies a long felt want. The forty-two reproductions of pictures with which the book is embellished cannot be too highly commended for the delicacy and beauty of their execution."

The MANCHESTER CITY NEWS says:—"Nothing quite so good in every way as this guide to the National Gallery has hitherto been published. In addition to a complete list of the pictures, each accompanied by a descriptive note, it shows how the whole collection can be profitably and pleasantly examined in twelve visits. There are forty-two illustrations, all excellent."

The BLACKBURN EVENING EXPRESS says:—"The blocks seem to be by a new and delicate process, but they come up wonderfully well, and so hazy and shadowy a picture as 'The Fighting *Téméraire*,' is, as the printers would say, clearly brought up, every small detail being faithfully reproduced. Country cousins visiting London with a view to seeing the sights will find this hand-book wonderfully useful."

ENGLAND says:—"I have received a copy of a catalogue of the National Gallery, beautifully illustrated, price sixpence, which is published as a *Pall Mall Gazette* Extra. As a handbook it is invaluable. Politically I hate the *Pall Mall*; but I am not so bigoted as not to recognize the public character of this catalogue."

The NEWCASTLE DAILY LEADER says:—"Some of the masterpieces are reproduced in miniature, very often with great effect. The arrangement is simple, the pictures following each other in the order of their official number. With this guide to be had for 6*d*. no visitor need go the nation's storehouse of art with his fingers in his mouth."

The METHODIST RECORDER says:—"The proprietors of the *Pall Mall Gazette* have done well to publish at this time another of their wonderful sixpenny 'Extras,' containing a popular account of the Gallery and its contents. The notes are brief, and not above the heads of those for whom the publication is intended—our average citizens and country cousins."

"PALL MALL GAZETTE" OFFICE, 2, Northumberland-street, Strand, London, W.C.

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Announcements of Births, Marriages, and Deaths are inserted for 5s. each.

COVENT GARDEN.—Lessee, FREEMAN THOMAS.—GRAND CIRCUS, under the direction of AUGUSTUS HARRIS and FREEMAN THOMAS.—The Tamed Trained Lion on Horseback (the great sensation of Paris), with the most Marvellous Mastiff ever seen. Wonderful Siberian Bears, 30 Clowns 100 highly-trained Horses and Ponies. Gou-Gou and his Wonderful Pig, Jessica, the Graceful and Champion Wire-walker. The Hoffman Sisters (Horizontal-bar Performers). Sylvester (Renowned Jockey Rider). SATURDAY NEXT, Feb. 8, Grand Military Spectacle, ZULULAND. TWICE DAILY, at 2 and 7.30. Prices from 6*d.* to £4 4*s.* Box-office open daily 10 to 5.

SAVOY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, R. D'OYLY CARTE. THIS and EVERY EVENING, at 8.30, the entirely original Comic Opera in Two Acts, entitled, THE GONDOLIERS, by W. S. GILBERT and ARTHUR SULLIVAN. Doors open at 8. MORNING PERFORMANCE EVERY SATURDAY at 2.30. Doors open at 2. Box-office open daily from 9 A.M. till 11 P.M.

LYRIC THEATRE, SHAFTESBURY-AVENUE, PICCADILLY-CIRCUS.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, HENRY J. LESLIE.—EVERY EVENING, at 8.20, a new Comedy Opera in Three Acts, entitled THE RED HUSSAR by H. P. STEPHENS and EDWARD SOLOMON. Preceded at 7.30 by WARRANTED BURGLAR PROOF. Doors open at 7.30. Box-office open from 9 A.M. till 11 P.M. Seats can be booked three months in advance. MATINEE EVERY SATURDAY, at 2.30.

ROYAL AQUARIUM.—Six Wonderful Performing Elephants (exclusively engaged here), the Regal Aerial Aquariatos, the Kings of Trapeze, the Leopolds, Aerial Wonders (first appearance here), and the finest Variety Show of Artists in Skating, Knockabout, Acrobatic, Singing, Dancing, and Strength. Fred. Paulsen (the Strong Man from America), Harry Moore (Comic Vocalist), the Sisters Leyton in their popular dance, the Brothers Harold in their Refined Skating, Knockabout, and Boxing Entertainment, Griffin and Marks, Silence and Fun, Hotine's Wonderful Dogs, the Brothers Beiso and their Donkey, G. Silvester (the Operatic Tenor), the Harrison Troupe of Acrobats, Miss Amy Tilley (Refined Change Artiste), Professor Cross (Phrenologist), &c. Twice daily, at 3 and 8. Open at 12, close at 11.30 P.M. Admission 1*s.*, children 6*d.*

ROYAL AQUARIUM.—Thought Reading Extraordinary.—Dr. ONOFROFF, the remarkable Psychologist, will hold receptions to-day in the Theatre about 4 and 9. Phenomenal, Unique, and Unprecedented. Pronounced by the Press "Astonishing."

CRYSTAL PALACE PANTOMIME, ALADDIN.—VERDICT of LONDON PRESS. "Brilliant and beautiful." "Delightfully quaint." "A triumph of art and ingenuity." "No end of fun." "Not a dull moment." "Big success." EVERY AFTERNOON at 3, and THURSDAY and SATURDAY at 7.30. Seats, 1*s.* to 5*s.*, exclusive of admission to Palace. Written by HORACE LENNARD. Invented and produced by OSCAR BARRETT.

MADAME TUSSAUD AND SONS' EXHIBITION. Adjoining Baker-street Station.—PORTRAIT MODELS of H.M. KING ALFONSO XIII. of Spain, GEORGE AUGUSTUS SALA, LORD NAPIER of MAGDALA (taken in 1868). Over 400 Portrait Models of Celebrities of all ages and nations. Monster Lucky Tub, free prizes to all children. Priceless collection of Napoleonic Relics. New Smoking and Reading Rooms, luxuriously furnished. Organ Recitals at 12, 2 and 6 o'clock. Orchestra from 4 to 6 and 7.30 to 10 P.M. Admission 1*s.* Children under 12 6*d.* Open from 10 A.M. to 10 P.M.

MADAME TUSSAUD and SONS.—Unique Relics of the French Revolution of 1789—Models taken from the Heads of Revolutionists by Mdme. Tussaud's own hands. Mrs Maybrick now added. Richard Pigott, the Forger. CHAMBER OF HORRORS.

PANORAMA of WATERLOO and EXHIBITION of RELICS, Ashley-place (Westminster). BATTLE of WATERLOO.—GRAND PANORAMA painted by Chev. P. FLEISCHER. OPEN DAILY from 10 A.M. to 10 P.M. Entrance 1*s.*, except on Wednesdays between 10 and 6, when the charge is 2*s.* Mrs. HUNT's celebrated LADIES' ORCHESTRA will give a vocal and instrumental concert from 3 to 5.30, and 8 to 10 P.M. daily.

NIAGARA IN LONDON. COLOSSAL PANORAMA OF THE GREAT FALLS. Lounge, Music, Stereoscopic Views of all America, Cheap Restaurant. Fogs defeated. Electric Light. Building properly warmed. Admission 1*s.* Tickets at libraries and hotels. No fees. 10 to 10.—YORK STREET, WESTMINSTER, St. James's Park Station. Second Year. One Million Visitors.

ART GALLERIES.

CATHEDRAL TOWNS and PICTURESQUE PLACES in GERMANY and ITALY: WATER COLOUR DRAWINGS by EDWARD H. BEARNE, made in 1888 and 1889. ON VIEW at THOMAS McLEAN'S GALLERY, 7, HAYMARKET. Admission, including Catalogue, 1*s.* (Next the Haymarket Theatre.)

MESSRS. RAPHAEL TUCK AND SONS ART STUDENTS' and AMATEURS' COMPETITIVE PRIZE EXHIBITION, held at the GALLERIES of the ROYAL INSTITUTE OF PAINTERS in WATER COLOURS, Piccadilly, W. Judges: Sir John E. Millais, Bart., R.A.; Marcus Stone, R.A., G. H Boughton, A.R.A., Solomon J. Solomon. The prizes, amounting to 500 guineas and 250 diplomas, have now been awarded by the judges. The 2,600 works on view form the largest number of pictures ever exhibited at any Art Exhibition in London. Admission ONE SHILLING, ten to six.—W. T. BLACKMORE, Secretary.

SPORTS AND ARTS EXHIBITION.—GROSVENOR GALLERY, NEW BOND-STREET, W. NOW OPEN. Ten to Seven. Admission 1*s.*

TUDOR EXHIBITION.—Patron, H.M. the QUEEN: Vice-Patron, H.R.H. the PRINCE OF WALES. NOW OPEN. NEW GALLERY, REGENT-STREET. 10 to 6. Admission 1*s.* Hon. HAROLD DILLON, Secretary.

HOTEL LIST.

GRAND CANARY HOTEL SANTA CATALINA.—The finest winter climate in the world.—This charming hotel faces the sea, and is surrounded by its own beautifully laid-out grounds. The hotel is replete with every modern improvement, and the sanitary arrangements leave nothing to be desired. Information may be obtained and plans seen at the offices of the CANARY ISLANDS CO., 1, LAURENCE POUNTNEY-HILL, LONDON, E.C.

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BBBB      A       RRRR    NN    N   U     U   M       M  "  SSS
B   B    A A      R   R   N N   N   U     U   MM     MM  "  S
BBBB    A   A     RRRR    N  N  N   U     U   M M   M M  '  SSS
B   B  AAAAA      R   R   N   N N    U   U    M  MM   M       S
BBBB   A     A    R    R  N    NN     UUU     M   M   M     SSS
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LAST WEEK BUT ONE at OLYMPIA, London. Only 11 Days more in which to see Barnum's Greatest Show on Earth and

IMRE KIRALFY'S "NERO" before their return to America. Each of the remaining performances will be made memorable by the Grandest Programme that nineteen centuries have been able to produce.

DON'T DECEIVE YOURSELF with the belief that BARNUM'S GREATEST SHOW ON EARTH will prolong its London season, or exhibit anywhere else in the United Kingdom, for it positively will not. Saturday, Feb. 15, will be the last day, and after then you may never have a chance to see it.

CHEAP EXCURSIONS from EVERYWHERE until Feb. 15, and then "Good bye." See BARNUM and "NERO" now or never.

DAILY AFTERNOON and NIGHT EXHIBITIONS. Doors open by 12.0 noon and 6.0 P.M. Performances begin at 2.0 and 8.0 P.M., and conclude at 4.30 and 10.30 P.M. Prices: Amphitheatre 1*s.*, balcony 2*s.*, 3*s.*, and 4*s.*, according to location; upper dress circle, 2*s.* 6*d.*; dress circle, 3*s.*; stalls 4*s.*, 5*s.*, and 6*s.*, according to location. With every ticket a numbered reserved seat coupon is given, without extra charge of any kind, which the holder can occupy and leave at will during the performance, without danger of any one else occupying it. Only as many tickets sold as there are seats. No standing room. By booking in advance admission and a seat are absolutely guaranteed. No booking fee charged at Olympia or 28, Piccadilly. All except 1*s.*, 2*s.*, and 2*s.* 6*d.* seats booked one week in advance by postal order or personal application. At both Afternoon and Night Exhibitions children between four and ten years will be admitted to all parts of the house at half-price, except in 1*s.*, 2*s.*, and 2*s.* 6*d.* seats.

BARNUM and BAILEY will LEASE OLYMPIA, completely fitted for immediate exhibition purposes, for their unexpired term, to wit, from Feb. 24 to April 1 next.

A NEW CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION.

A new rival to the Charity Organization Society, with, however, some essentially different features, was started in July last, and has since been making its way in private. Not until yesterday did it blaze forth into the full light of publicity. Then a meeting was held at Westbourne Park Chapel, with Sir Roper Lethbridge in the chair, and Mr. Burdett, the organizer of the movement, at his right hand. The latter gentleman explained briefly the objects of the Association of North Kensington Friendly Workers among the Poor, which are to bring into co-operation all who are studying the problems of poverty; to see that prompt measures are taken for the relief of distress; and to ensure that no children shall grow up paupers. These will be accomplished by means of a house-to-house visitation in the district, and by keeping a list of those who are likely to need help from the charitable. A resolution proposed by Mr. Edmund Routledge stated that the meeting would do its utmost to procure the £150 necessary to meet current expenses. Among other speakers was Capt. James, who was of opinion that the association would do much towards solving the social questions which were pressing so thickly around us. They had many charities at present, but he was afraid that in many cases they overlapped each other. The Friendly Workers Committee hoped to prevent this mistake. It was also stated that workers of every creed were invited to join, and upon the list of the council stand the names of both the Presbyterian Dr. Sinclair Paterson and the Rev. Father Sylvester.

LORD HARTINGTONS TRIP TO THE EAST.

Lord Hartington's health has so greatly improved during the past few days that his physicians have pronounced him quite strong enough to bear the journey to Egypt. With a view, however, to minimizing the fatigues of travel he will embark on board the Peninsular and Oriental steamer *Bengal* and proceed by sea direct to Ismailia, instead of joining the vessel at Brindisi. According to present arrangements he will not return to London until after the Easter recess.

FOURTH EDITION.

AN ABSCONDING BANK CASHIER.

TEN THOUSAND POUNDS STOLEN.

An Oldham correspondent telegraphs:—The cashier of an Oldham bank was absent from duty yesterday, and the fact arousing suspicion an examination of the books was made. Serious defalcations were discovered. The chief constable of Oldham has since received a letter from the absconding cashier admitting having stolen nearly £10,000. The disclosure of the fact has created a great sensation. The police are taking steps to arrest the defaulter.

AN ENGINE-DRIVER'S FRIGHTFUL POSITION.

Yesterday the span of an iron railway bridge which crosses the river at Bridge Junction, Illinois, broke down while a goods train was passing over it, and the engine fell into the water, dragging some of the trucks with it. Two men who were on the locomotive were drowned. The engine-driver is alive, but according to the latest telegrams is in a frightful position. He is pinioned by the wreck of the engine, and is just able to keep his head above water by standing on the corpse of the fireman. He is kept alive by the constant administration of stimulants, while surgeons are making efforts to amputate the unfortunate man's leg, by which he is held fast, in order to release him from his horrible situation.—*Reuter.*

STARVING SCOTCH CROFTERS IN NORTH-WEST CANADA.

An Ottawa telegram to Dalziel's Agency to-day says: The Rev. Mr. Robertson, superintendent of the Presbyterian Missions in the North-West, who has been sent out there to report on the condition of the immigrant Scotch crofters has made a startling report, the details of which show that at the present time the settlers are absolutely in a state of starvation. He makes an appeal for immediate assistance.

THE FATAL FIRE AT WASHINGTON.

HARROWING SCENES.

About seven o'clock yesterday morning the inmates of the Washington residence of Mr. B. F. Tracy, Secretary of the Navy, were warned from outside that the building was on fire. The flames first consumed the stairway, so preventing access to the family, who were still asleep. The firemen promptly responded to the call, but proved themselves to be not very skilful. They shouted confusing directions to a lady and child who were standing at the upper front window, and erected ladders, which proved too short to reach them. Becoming too frightened to wait, both leaped into the street and were seriously but not fatally injured. They were the secretary's granddaughter and her mother, Mrs. Wilmerding.

In the rear of the house still more shocking scenes occurred. It is believed that Mr. Tracy became unconscious from the smoke, and that his wife was the first to take alarm. Apparently, she struggled to carry her husband to a window; but he was too heavy for her strength. The neighbours say she first hung out of the window and then dropped. When found she was unconscious, and died soon afterwards. As the distance of the window from the ground was not great, and Mrs. Tracy was found to have burst a blood-vessel, it is believed that she died from the effort to rescue her husband The firemen, who entered the room staggering through the smoke, found the secretary where his wife had left him. When he recovered consciousness, only to learn of his bereavement, he immediately relapsed into unconsciousness; but there are good grounds for hoping that he will recover.

The firemen who opened the bedroom door into the hall stumbled over the body of a young woman dreadfully burned. She was May, the secretary's youngest and unmarried child. The place where the body was found shows that she was endeavouring to alarm her parents. The French maid was also burned to death. The building was a handsome brown stone three-story house. It was heated by steam, and there is nothing but conjecture as to the cause of the fire, or how it came to progress so rapidly and secretly without alarming the family.

Mr. Tracy will be taken to the White House to-day, the doctors not considering that he should be moved sooner. President Harrison has countermanded the State dinner to be given in honour of the centenary of the organization of the United States Supreme Court on Thursday.

A Reuter's telegram from Washington this morning says:—The bodies of Mrs. Tracy and her daughter Marie have been laid in coffins and placed in the east room of the Executive mansion.

NEMESIS ON THE TRACK OF PORTUGAL.

THE COMMERCIAL BOYCOTT AND ITS RESULT.

There has been such trade depression in consequence of the commercial boycott of England that the shopkeers at Lisbon and at Oporto are beginning to feel that they have cut off their noses to spite their faces. The Custom House officers do little but bask in the sun, which fortunately is as genial as a May sun is in England. The new harbour works in both cities press heavily on the taxpayers, and will be ruinous if trade is driven away. The revenue returns for the past month show a serious falling off.

The *Daily News* correspondent has had a talk with Senhor Barros Gomes. That gentleman expressed his regret at having been unable to come to an understanding with England, as his policy had been steadily framed with that view. He said: "Serpa Pinto got out without well defined instructions; his mission was to annex the districts along the Arnangoa, but this we were not at liberty at the time to publish. However, when later on the British Government pressed us very much for fuller information, we told them everything.' When asked whether he thought Major Serpa Pinto was justified in annexing Nyassaland, he said: "We never knew it was British territory, England never having sent us any notification to that effect. In fact, we believed it was ours. Neither had we any official notification that Mashonaland was under a British protectorate. We merely took Lord Salisbury at his word; he said it was not in the House of Lords, and he does not pass for a rash speaker who lets his tongue run away with him."

PORTUGAL AND THE EUROPEAN POWERS.

A telegram from Lisbon of yesterday's date to the *Koelnische Zeitung* states that on account of the arrival there of Senhor d'Antas, the late Portuguese Minister in London, and the departure of his successor, Senhor Barjona Freitas, the despatch of the Portuguese Memorandum to the signatory Powers of the Berlin Convention, proposing a conference on African affairs, has been postponed until Thursday, Portugal, continues the telegram would accept a settlement of the matters in dispute with Great Britain by the conference now sitting in Brussels, but a special conference would be more agreeable to her. The Portuguese Legations abroad intimate that Spain, France, Italy, Austria, and Russia are inclined to such a conference, while Germany is not disinclined, though more reserved in the matter. It is reported, says the correspondent in conclusion, that the British Minister in Lisbon has informed the Portuguese Government verbally that England would agree to a conference.—*Reuter.*

THE STATE OF LORD SALISBURY'S HEALTH.

Lord Salisbury is now reported to be convalescent. Whenever the weather is fine he takes outdoor exercise, both walking and driving, in Hatfield Park. His medical advisers, however, urge that he should run no risk, and the result is that he does not venture to travel to town. All Foreign Office work is carried out by him at Hatfield, his secretaries being in daily attendance. It is understood that as soon as the chief business attached to the opening of Parliament has been completed, the Premier will travel to the Riviera, or to some similar health-restoring spot on the Continent.

It is stated that Lord Salisbury's medical advisers prefer that he should run no risk of relapse after his recent illness, and have accordingly prevailed upon him not to hold the Cabinet Council at the Foreign Office as usual before the meeting of Parliament. The Cabinet will meet to consider the Queen's Speech at Lord Salisbury's house in Arlington-street to-morrow, at 2.30 P.M., and the Prime Minister will arrive from Hatfield half an hour earlier. Lord Salisbury has been entertaining several members of the Cabinet at Hatfield in preparation for the official business of the session. Mr. Goschen spent three days with him, and yesterday Mr. Balfour and Mr. W. H. Smith were the Prime Minister's guests.

THE TRIAL OF THE BISHOP OF LINCOLN.

TO-DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

At Lambeth Palace this morning, before the Archbishop of Canterbury, and the Bishops of London, Hereford (in place of Winchester), Rochester, Oxford, and Salisbury, the case against the Bishop of Lincoln came on for trial. The nominal promoters are three unknown men in the diocese, but practically the Church Association is the plaintiff. The Archbishop was attended by Sir John Parker Deane, and the court was opened by Sir John Hassard. The bishops wore their robes, and the library, the darkness of which was only relieved by a few lamps and candles, presented a picturesque sight.

Dr. Walsh was called and examined by Sir Horace Davey as to alleged acts of illegal ritual committed by the Bishop at the cathedral at St. Peter-al-Gowts, Lincoln. Photographs of the church were provided for members of the court. He declared that he could not see the Bishop break the bread and take the chalice in his hand at the consecration of the elements.

Cross-examined by Sir Walter Phillimore, the witness said he was asked to attend the services by the secretary of the Church Association. He had been similarly employed by the society in different parts of the country. He doubted whether or not the Bishop performed the manual acts required by the Rubric. Much amusement was caused by the witness insisting in reply to Sir Walter's questions, on substituting in a loud tone the word "communion" for "altar" rails.

MR. BARNUM AND HIS WHITE ELEPHANT.

THE GREAT SHOWMAN IN THE BOX

The Lord Chief Justice took his seat on the bench at a quarter to eleven this morning. Two young ladies who had braved the fog also occupied chairs on the judicial level. They were attracted, no doubt, as were many spectators, by the prospect of seeing Mr. Barnum in a new rôle. After a few preliminaries, the "badgering of Barnum" began, whilst the judicial features were most marked by the gravity and soberness that might—but, really, Barnum in the box was so irresistibly amusing that it would be bearing too hardly on the infirmity of humanity—even when it is ermined humanity—to be critical.

Mr. Barnum, having taken his oath, Mr. Reid at once took him in hand. Presently the fun began. Asked to recall a date, Barnum briskly replied, "I can only recal it by referring to a very excellent work, 'The Life of P. T. Barnum written by himself.' If you will allow me for a moment," he went on, looking up the passage referred to, in a gorgeously-bound copy of his work. Then he proceeded to say that it was contrary to law to remove white elephants from Siam. On the occasion in question his men travelled by night only, very secretly. But, rattled on the showman, on boarding the ship, the sacred beast was poisoned by the priests.

At this point, Mr. Lockwood interposed: This is no doubt an interesting international question, but I don't quite see the bearing on the bill of exchange.

The Chief Justice (with a broad smile): He says you will see it in a moment.

Mr. Lockwood: We must take it on faith, I suppose, like the white elephant.

Mr. Barnum then recounted his experiences in New York, and, assuming a kind of "patter," almost rapid and bewildering enough to be considered duly professional, amid the smothered grins of all his hearers, proceeded to state how he had applied to General Grant, who was asked to write a letter saying who Barnum was, and testifying to his trustworthiness, &c. The elephant was the only one of the kind.

Then came a passage at arms about the possession of the "Life and Experiences." Mr. Lockwood needed to refer to it. It was handed down. "I shall be very happy if you will keep it," said its author, whereupon another ripple of laughter swept over the court. By this time the book was in Mr. Lockwood's hands. He started dramatically. "Oh! Mr. Barnum; I could not keep it; I see it already bears the name of my friend Mr. Reid.'

"I shall be very happy to send you a copy,' said Barnum, unabashed. "I shall be equally happy to accept it," was Mr. Lockwood's reply.

Then some cards and letter-paper used by Mr. Davies were handed up to the witness-box. They read as if he were the accredited representative of the show. "It was an act of great presumption on his part," said Barnum calmly. Presently, with a peculiar little bow to Lord Coleridge, he left the witness-stand, muttering something which sounded suspiciously like "I shall be happy to see you at Olympia."

Thereupon, following Mr. Reid and Mr. Lockwood, the Lord Chief Justice began his summing up, laying stress on the real simplicity of the whole transaction.

Ultimately a verdict was returned for the defendants, with costs.

MR. GLADSTONE'S LIFE AT OXFORD

Mr. Gladstone yesterday morning breakfasted with the Provost and Fellows of Oriel College. In the afternoon he attended Magdalen College Chapel. He has declined to take part in the usual weekly debate at the Union on Thursday, but has promised to give an address there to-morrow afternoon on the points of contact between Homer and Assyrian research. The committee anticipate a very large attendance, and no strangers' tickets can as yet be issued, but a few distinguished guests will be accommodated on the committee benches. Last night Mr. Gladstone dined in Christ Church Hall, as the guest of Dr. Liddon.

Mr. Gladstone will return to town on Saturday next, instead of Monday, as originally arranged. The right hon. gentleman will not give the usual parliamentary dinner on Monday evening, but a meeting of the chiefs of the party will be arranged for that evening to consider the Queen's Speech.

MRS. LANGTRY'S ILLNESS.

A bulletin issued last night states that Mrs. Langtry had had a better day yesterday. The congestion of the lungs was subsiding, but the laryngitis continued severe.

MR. WM. O'BRIEN'S HEALTH.

Mr. W. O'Brien, M.P., since his return from Leeds has consulted Dr. Quain as to the state of his health, and has been recommended complete rest for a time. Mr. O'Brien, however, has resolved not to abandon his engagement at Manchester. Mr. O'Brien's health has undoubtedly been greatly shaken by his latest imprisonment.

THE ATLANTIC HURRICANE.—A LARGE STEAMER LOST.

The fourth officer and quartermaster of the Red Star line steamer *Waesland*, which has just arrived at New York, were swept overboard and drowned in the severe weather which the vessel experienced in crossing the Atlantic.

The steamer *Brampton*, which has arrived at Baltimore, reports that on January 23, when in latitude 33 34 north and longitude 51 west, in the midst of a hurricane, she saw a heavily-laden brigantine-rigged steamer founder.

THE GOUFFE MURDER.—REPORTED ARREST OF EYRAUD

A Central News telegram from Paris says:—According to a report published here, the Prefecture of Police has received a telegram from Philadelphia announcing that Eyraud has been arrested in that city.

THE PHILADELPHIA AND READING RAILROAD.

A Central News telegram from New York to-day says:—The *New York Times* to-day announces that a syndicate of New York and Philadelphia capitalists, hostile to Mr. Corbin, the President of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad, have obtained control of the stock of that company. This announcement is regarded here (assuming its accuracy) of the highest importance, as the action of the said syndicate will probably alter the whole policy of the road.

THE UNIVERSITY BOAT RACE.

Mr. W. H. Grenfell has invited the Oxford crew to make Taplow-court their headquarters during their usual practice on the Upper Thames. The crew are expected to leave Oxford on March 1, and they will, as usual, take spins up and down the well-known Spade Oak Reach. After remaining on the Upper Thames for about ten days, they will proceed to the Lyric Club, near Barnes.

Mr. H. H. Asquith and Mr. J. L. Walton have been raised to the rank of Queen's counsel.

The *Dix-Neuvième Siècle* publishes a statement to the effect that Prince Bismarck is shortly going to retire definitively from public life.

This morning's bulletin says:—"Lord Sydney passed a fair night. His condition is unchanged."

Malcolm Nicholson, deputy clerk of Justiciary, Edinburgh, was to-day sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment for theft of documents from the archives of the court.

Mrs. Lucas, one of the two surviving sisters of Mr. Jacob Bright, is lying very seriously ill in London. This is a severe affliction for Mr. Bright, and will bring to him universal sympathy, especially in remembrance of the comparatively recent loss of his two brothers. His other sister, Mrs. Duncan Maclaren, of Edinburgh, is not in good health.

MR. PARNELL'S VERDICT AGAINST THE "TIMES."

WHAT THE NEWSPAPERS HAVE TO SAY.

THE LONDON MORNING JOURNALS.

Commenting on the result of yesterday's action, the *Times* says:—It will be seen by our Law report that the case of "Parnell *v.* Walter and Another," in which Mr. Parnell claimed £100,000 damages, has been settled, without going to trial, by a "verdict by consent" for £5,000. After our withdrawal of the letters from the purview of the Special Commission, and our expression of regret that they had been published, it was clear that we had no legal defence to an action founded upon them, or upon statements connected with them; and we had, therefore, no alternative but to come to terms with our opponent, or to abide by such a verdict as a jury might think proper to award. As we had ourselves at the outset challenged such an action, with its consequences, in the event of our being unable to make good that part of our case, we cannot complain of being taken at our word. The result, however, in no way affects the larger question, upon which the Commission may shortly be expected to report. It is most desirable that its Report, when presented, may be placed in the hands of the public with as little delay as possible.

The *Standard*, evidently thinking that "silence is golden," says nothing.

Alluding to the "general satisfaction" at the verdict, and to "the mistake of our contemporary," the *Daily Telegraph* becomes epigrammatic:—If Ireland has a right to Home Rule, we should not deny it to her even were all the Irish leaders the accomplices of assassins; and England has a just claim to preserve the United Kingdom, even if Mr. Parnell and his colleagues were proved to be saints.

Suggesting an apology from the Ministry, the *Daily News* points out that Mr. Parnell has not needed to clear himself; he has been cleared by the action of those on whose authority the charges rested. His declaration that the letters were forgeries, made in the House of Commons when the letters were published, should have been accepted till the contrary had been proved. This was the course which common sense, not to say common courtesy, dictated. It was not followed; and now nothing but the fullest and frankest apology can meet the case. The public will look with much curiosity—may we not say, with much anxiety?—to the course which Lord Salisbury and his supporters take; and we do not regard it as possible that the popular expectation, based as it is upon a high sense of the honour, and even chivalry, of our public men, can possibly be disappointed. The interest which the public has in the matter is, however, not so much in the terms of the settlement as in the effect which this admission of wrong on the part of our contemporary should have on the great controversy of the time. For more than two years that is from the time of the unfortunate publication of these forged letters down to the exposure of the forgery before the Commission, a great political party made this baseless charge its chief political argument.

The *Morning Post* considers that it would be a needless and unthankful task to discuss the injury inflicted upon Unionist credit by the appalling mistake of a contemporary, or to decide upon the amount of blame to be assigned it. At the same time there must be no misunderstanding as to who alone is responsible for the evil thus wrought. That only success could justify the assumption of the tremendous responsibility attaching to the publication of Pigott's letters no one, in all probability, will care to deny. It is clear that the *Times* believed up to the last in the genuine character of the Pigott letters, and that the scruples of Mr. Parnell alone interfered with the readiness expressed by his accusers to stand their trial. It is equally clear that but for these scruples the whole matter might have been settled without the intervention of Parliament. In future, therefore, whatever theory as to relative merits may be formed, the responsibility is well ascertained. By the result of Mr. Parnell's tardy if successful action the disentanglement of the Unionist Government and their general following from this business is finally accomplished.

In the opinion of the *Morning Advertiser* the Pigott letters are now legally stamped as the forgeries they undoubtedly were. But it is decidedly premature on the part of Mr. Parnell's friends to parade what they call his 'triumph' in the Lord Chief Justice's Court as a sort of refutation in advance of any unfavourable conclusions to which the Special Commissioners may arrive in their yet unpublished report respecting other matters investigated by them. Mr. Parnell is to be congratulated on his "vindication," but it must be remembered that the forged letters formed but a part of the field of inquiry. It is moreover, to say the least of it, unfortunate that when Mr. Parnell was pressed to go into court and clear himself in the manner he adopted two or three years later, he refused to do so, and insisted upon the inadequate process of investigation by a Parliamentary Committee.

THE PROVINCIAL PRESS.

The *Times* (exclaims the *Sheffield Telegraph*) always does its business handsomely. It is not likely a jury would have awarded damages to anything like the extent of five thousand pounds. It would probably, have been recognized that the *Times* had been victimized, and that although Mr. Parnell was injured in his reputation, the real delinquent was the person who blew out his brains at Madrid. A great deal might have been pleaded in mitigation of damages. It might, for instance, have been pleaded that Mr. Parnell himself was grossly deceived by the forged signature. The worst that can be said against the *Times* is that it was too credulous in relying on the word of a man like Pigott, whose record as a Parnellite journalist of the baser sort was not such as to allow of his evidence being accepted without confirmation.

"Not even Mr. Parnell's bitterest enemy can deny the complete triumph represented by the verdict yesterday," writes the *Sheffield Independent*. "It may be that for so serious a libel published under circumstances of such grave aggravation £5,000 is a light penalty. But finding the *Times* had wholly abandoned their plea that Mr. Parnell's character was such as to disentitle him to substantial damages, finding them willing to pay a sum which must carry with it the confession that the Irish leader has been grossly traduced, and that without any real justification, Mr. Parnell's advisers were probably right in declining to insist on their pound of flesh. For in the bluest of blue Tory circles there will be surely no attempt to explain away damages so exemplary as those awarded Mr. Parnell."

"For months past," says the *Manchester Courier* (C) "we have been told that Mr. Parnell was anxious to press his action against the *Times* to the bitter end, in order that he might connect the Government and the Unionist party generally with the publication of the forgeries. If Mr. Parnell has suffered injustice in this case, he has himself, primarily at any rate, to blame. The law courts were open to him on the morrow of the publication of the first of the forged letters, as they were yesterday.

"Whatever may be thought of the wisdom shown by the responsible conductors of the *Times* in accepting the forged letters on the word of a Nationalist like the late Mr. Pigott," observes the *Mancheter Examiner* (LU), "at least it may be said of them that, being honourable men, they are willing to make what reparation lies in their power, and to bear the penalty they have incurred."

The failure of the evil enterprise (the *Manchester Guardian* (L) says), is a matter for profound congratulation; but it remains a shocking thing that it should have been made, and that at least half the "cultured" people in England should have implicitly believed it. What is the value of the judgment of these "cultured" persons, or of the judgment of their favourite organ, in view of the too true history which ended in the Courts of Justice yesterday. If those people were so wildly astray then—if their natural sense was warped and blinded by inveterate prejudice—is it probably that on the far more complex and difficult matter of Home Rule their judgment is likely to be sound? Yesterday's scene will do much to discount the Report of the Parnell Commission. "If these letters," said Mr. Chamberlain in the House of Commons, "should successfully be shown to be base forgeries, all the rest of the case, whatever it be, will be so prejudiced that I much doubt whether the public will pay much attention to it. It has still to be discovered who was behind Pigott—where, for instance, the necessary money came from before the *Times* began to pay its thousands—and still more who was behind the *Times*.

"Compared with the gravity of the offence which the *Times* had committed against Mr. Parnell—the terrible suspicions under which he laboured until the forgery was demonstrated, and we must add, the inexcusable negligence which permitted the acceptance of the letters as genuine—the sum of £5,000 seems almost trivial," says the *Birmingham Post* (L. U.) "But it is quite possible that the jury might have said that a plaintiff in a libel action who allowed so long a period to elapse before proceeding could scarcely expect exemplary damages; and it is not at all unlikely that the jury might have thought that the *Times* was being somewhat hardly treated in being subjected to an action for damages in respect of a matter which Parliament itself had referred to the Special Commission."

"Those who have made a saint of Joe Brady, and who still regard Egan and Sheridan as the pink of Irish patriots," observes the *Birmingham Gazette* (C), "would not let a chief fall in their estimation for such a trifle as the forged letters imputed to him. The moral seems to be to put no faith in a Nationalist either before or after he has split with his leaders."

"No libel of modern times has at all approached this one in magnitude," remarks the *Liverpool Mercury* (L). "Mr. Parnell has evidently been glad of an opportunity to avoid any procedure which might savour of vindictiveness. His vindication before the Special Commission enabled him to be forbearing."

"Not only has the Irish leader voluntarily accepted in expiation of the great wrong done him one-twentieth of the sum originally demanded,' remarks the *Liverpool Courier* (C.), "but he has foregone that publicity which uninitiated supporters and partisans were led to suppose he was thirsting for. Therefore it is time to cease speaking about 'the ordeal by fire,' walking on red-hot ploughshares, and so forth. Mr. Parnell's reputation is entirely unsullied as regards the Pigott forgeries."

"It must be borne in mind," observes the *Liverpool Post* (L.), "that the jury which would have had to assess the damages would have been composed of London special jurymen, who are not usually supposed to have any predilections in favour of the Irish leader. If, with such chances in their favour, the *Times* proprietors have agreed to pay heavy damages, the only conclusion that can be come to is that as men of some business knowledge and common-sense they saw that no other course was reasonably open to them."

"If Mr. Parnell has any fresh facts tending to incriminate somebody else besides Mr. Pigott, by all means let us have them," exclaims the *Nottingham Guardian* (C). "A speech in Parliament would serve the purpose admirably. We do not think, however, that Mr. Parnell has any fresh facts of any moment. We doubt whether the matter of the letters from the first has influenced a single vote either one way or the other. The case will certainly act as a warning to the conductors of English newspapers not to attach too much trust to the statements of Irish Nationalists."

It is evident to the *Leeds Mercury* (L) that the parties were influenced towards a speedier settlement by Mr. Parnell's failure to obtain power to compel the *Times* to make certain disclosures as to the manner in which the forged letters came into its possession. Had this inadequate sum been increased a hundredfold it would still have been the poorest part of the recompense Mr. Parnell has received. The *Times*, with its baseless calumnies was the unwitting means of giving the Irish leader a place in public esteem which he had never held before.

"If there ever was a couple of litigants likely to be heartily sick and tired of the whole game of law," says the *Yorkshire Post* (C.), "it was Messrs. Walter and Parnell. One cannot help being struck with the vast discrepancy between the amount claimed and the amount ultimately accepted. Really, when we consider his position, the damning nature of the charge laid against him, and the frightful ruin it would have involved had it been capable of proof, the sum of one hundred thousand pounds does not appear excessive."

The *Newcastle Leader* (L) thinks the plea of guilty an awkward fact for the political and Ministerial associates of the *Times* in the defamation of the Irish leader. After the exposure of Pigott the Marquis of Salisbury refused to accept the confessions of the author of the forgeries as a complete vindication of Mr. Parnell, but most ungenerously hinted that there might be a fraud behind the Pigott deception. The Prime Minister ought now to be called to account.

The *Northern Echo* (L.) says:—Looking to all that Mr. Parnell has borne from the *Times* his settlement with it seems magnanimous. . . . Quite apart from the Special Commission Report, the printing of the forged letters will demand attention as a breach of privilege. . . . It would be not generous nor graceful now, but the merest elementary act of justice, were the Coercionist leaders to formally apologize for having for months assumed the truth of charges against a political opponent which are now admitted by everybody to be the basest and most baseless falsehoods ever circulated against a public man.

MR. DAVITT'S OPINION.

In his speech at Crawshawbooth last night, Mr. Davitt said the opponents of Home Rule began with the Pigott forgeries, and that day they had suffered anothet defeat, for the *Times*, before contesting the question, had agreed to pay Mr. Parnell £5,000 and all expenses. In the Book it was said that "The wages of sin is death;" in political warfare, the reward of infamy and dishonest dealing was inevitable defeat.

HOW THE SETTLEMENT WAS EFFECTED.

The initiative in the negotiations for the settlement of Mr. Parnell's action (according to the London correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian*) was taken by the *Times* counsel, who made known their desire for an arrangement last Friday. The terms were finally concluded and signed by counsel on both sides early on Saturday. Mr. George Lewis, on behalf of the Irish leader, had made every preparation to proceed with the case, and the *Times* had brought over a large number of police and other witnesses who had given evidence of no particular importance before the Special Commission. The lavish way in which the *Times* has thrown its money about is not the least remarkable feature of its conduct in connection with the case.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRES IN THE CITY.

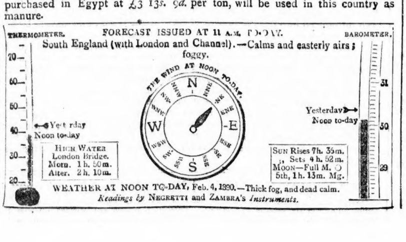
AN OUTBREAK THIS MORNING.

A fire of alarming proportions took place last night in the region immediately in the rear of the General Post Office. About half-past nine a watchman in the employment of the London and North-Western Railway Company, at the booking-office, the Swan with Two Necks, in Gresham street, first saw the fire burning in the premises of Messrs. James, Pike, and Co., mantle manufacturers. A number of fire engines were quickly on the spot. The firm mentioned have an extensive factory, which with the premises of a number of other firms, occupies the centre of the block formed by Wood-street, Gresham-street, Love-lane, and Aldermanbury. The fire very quickly gained a hold upon the buildings, and raged for some time most fiercely. Soon, however, nearly a dozen powerful steamers were on the spot, and under the personal direction of Captain Shaw, well-organized efforts were made to subdue the flames; not, however, until the building which occupied the immediate centre of the block—the factory of James and Pike—was completely destroyed was the fire got under control. The roof had caved in, and whatever stock was upon the premises must have been entirely destroyed. The fire burned with extreme rapidity, as may be judged by the fact that at eleven o'clock it was almost extinguished. Amongst the other firms who have suffered more or less from damage by fire or water, are A. J. Worthington, R. D. Warburton; Spence, Bennett, and Co.; Wernecke and Stevens, the Fylde Rubber Company, Roberts and Cross, Chaffey and Sons, J. Loebel and Co., and the London and North Western Railway Company. The damage is roughly estimated at £40,000.

The services of the fire brigade were severely taxed this morning by the outbreak of two large fires almost within 300 yards distance of one another. Scarcely had the numerous steamers which assisted in subduing the conflagration in Gresham-street been withdrawn from the scene of their operations, when another outbreak was reported in a large block of buildings situated between Jewin-street and St Edmund's-place, off Aldersgate-street. The alarm was first given by the policeman on the beat about a quarter past two o'clock, when it was found that one of the upper flats in the premises occupied by Messrs. John Jerwood and Co., fancy goods importers, was well alight. Assistance was first given by the firemen at the Aldersgate station, who were soon at work with a couple of hose and a fire escape. It was at once seen that the fire had got a firm hold of the two upper stories both in Jewin-street and in St. Edmund's-place. The length of the block is about thirty feet. Steamers quickly arrived as well as fire escapes, and by half past two o'clock a deluge of water was being directed with good effect both from the front and rear of the premises. The men had to work entirely by the aid of escapes from points on the adjoining buildings, and despite their efforts the fire made great ravages among the light and combustible stock stored in the upper flats. About three o'clock the fire burst out at the roof and for a time threatened to spread to the premises occupied by Mr. William White, silk throwster, Mr. Max Croner, fine art publisher, and Messrs. James Halford and Co., mantle manufacturers, but fortunately the efforts of the fire brigade prevailed, and the fire was successfully prevented from spreading. Captain Shaw was present and directed the efforts of the men. The damage, it is estimated, will amount to about £5,000.

A CARGO OF MUMMIFIED CATS.

There has just arrived from Alexandria at Liverpool, by the steamer *Pharos*, a consignment of nearly twenty tons of cats, numbering some 180,000, taken out of an ancient subterranean cats' cemetery discovered about 100 miles from Cairo by an Egyptian fellah, who accidentally fell into this cats' cemetery, which he found completely filled with cats, every one of which had been separately embalmed and dressed in cloth after the manner of Egyptian mummies, and all laid out in rows. Specimens of these have been taken by Mr. Moore, curator of the Liverpool Museum, where they can be seen. In ancient times the Egyptian cat was buried with all honours, but those consigned to Messrs. Levington and Co., of Liverpool, after being purchased in Egypt at £3 13*s.* 9*d.* per ton, will be used in this country as manure.



FORECAST ISSUED AT 11 A.M. TO-DAY.

South England (with London and Channel).—Calms and easterly airs; foggy.

HIGH WATER
London Bridge.
Morn. 1 h. 50 m.
After. 2 h. 10 m.

SUN Rises 7h. 35m.
" Sets 4 h. 52 m.
MOON—Full M. ○ 5th, 1 h. 13m. Mg.

WEATHER AT NOON TO-DAY, Feb. 4, 1890.—Thick fog, and dead calm.

Readings by NEGRETTI and ZAMBRA'S *Instruments.*

THE MONEY MARKET.

One o'clock.

HOME RAILWAYS DULL.—FOREIGN STOCKS STEADY.—AMERICANS WEAK.—MARKETS INACTIVE.

There is still a fair demand for accommodation in the shape of short loans, but not so much pressure as was the case yesterday, and the quotation for advances ranges from 5½ to 6½ per cent. The discount rate for three months' bank paper continues to harden and brokers now quote 4½ to 4⅝ per cent. for the negotiation of this class of paper. This advance in the discount rate is a good sign, and if continued will no doubt soon lead to the receipt by the Bank of England of large sums in gold from abroad.

The Stock Markets continue quiet and uninteresting. There is still an absence of disposition on the part of the public to do much either in the way of speculation or investment, and complaints are numerous of the inactivity of markets generally. Consols are firm, and 1-16 to ⅛ higher, but in the Home Railway market the movements are irregular. The Great Western dividend announcement has had no particular effect either on the stock or on the market. In the Foreign department Brazilian descriptions are firm, and show a further upward movement, and Peruvian, Greek, and Uruguay have been bought, but otherwise there is hardly anything doing. American Railroads have given way, the principal selling having been of Milwaukee and St. Paul and Louisville shares. Grand Trunk stocks are neglected, but Mexican Railway issues have been inquired for, the traffic of £17,600 being a trifle better than expected. Primitiva Nitrates are again lower, but other miscellaneous securities are quiet.

GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY DIVIDEND.—The directors of this company announce a distribution for the past half-year at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum, carrying forward £59,000. For the second half of 1888 the dividend was 7¼ per cent., with £50,000 forward.

The subscription list for the issue of 5,000,000 dols. Five per Cent. 100 Year Mortgage Gold Bonds of the Norfolk and Western Railroad Company opens to-day and closes at four P.M. for town and country.

The London secretary of the Salisbury Gold Mining Company (Limited has received a cablegram, stating that, at an extraordinary general meeting of shareholders just held at Maritzburg, the scheme of amalgamation with the adjoining Empress block has been agreed to. The capital of the company is thus raised to £400,000, of which the Empress Block Syndicate receives £110,000 in shares. The present holders of the Salisbury Company receive £250,000, or ten shares for each share registered in the name of each shareholder. There is a reserve of £40,000 for working capital.

The directors of the Improved Industrial Dwellings Company (Limited) recommend the usual dividend at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum on the stock, and a like dividend on the deferred shares. The company now possesses 41 estates in various parts of the metropolis, on which 5,144 dwellings have been built for occupation by about 26,000 persons of the working classes, and 312 are in course of erection and completion. The expenditure on capital account has now reached £1,032,562 8*s.* 7*d.*

The report of the directors of the City of London and Southwark Subway Company states that one of the tunnels is now completed throughout, and the other tunnel is being rapidly advanced. The underground stations are all nearly finished, and the station buildings on the surface at Great Dover-street are roofed in, the alterations to the building at King William street have been completed, and the company's offices are now established there. Messrs. Mather and Platt have had an electric locomotive and carriages running experimentally for some time between the King William street and Great Dover-street stations. As the present authorized lines stop at Stockwell, about a mile short of the great centre of traffic meeting near the Plough at Clapham, the directors have deemed it advisable to deposit a bill in Parliament asking for power to extend the line to that point. They propose also to alter the name of the company to that of the City and South of London Railway Company.

We are requested to state that the Mining Exchange, of 9, Old Broad-street, E.C., is not in any way connected with the London Mining Exchange (Limited).

The directors of Messrs. A. Guinness, Son, and Co. (Limited) have declared an interim dividend, for the six months ended December 31, 1889, at the rate of 12 per cent. per annum.

LIVERPOOL COTTON MARKET.—Quiet market, with moderate demand. Probable sales 8,000 bales. Futures firm, at 2 to 3 advance.

The following are the latest changes compared with yesterday's closing:—

HOME RAILWAYS.—*Improved*: Chatham Preference ¼. Caledonian, North Western, and South Eastern Deferred ⅛ each. *Receded*; Great Western and Metropolitan ¼. North British Deferred and North Eastern ⅛ each.

FOREIGN STOCKS.—*Risen*: Brazilian Scrip (fully and partly paid) ½, French Four and a Half per Cents., Greek 1881, and Uruguay Unified ¼, Peruvian 1870 3-16, and Italian 1-16. *Receded*: Egyptian Unified 1-16.

AMERICAN RAILROADS.—*Lower*: Milwaukee and St. Paul 1, Louisville and Nashville ⅝, Union Pacific ⅜, Denver Preference, Lake Shore, Erie shares and Second Mortgage, Atlantic Firsts, Norfolk and Western Preference, Ontario, and Philadelphia and Reading shares, and Wabash Mortgage ¼ each, and Central Pacific ⅛.

CANADIAN AND FOREIGN RAILWAYS.—*Advanced*: Mexican First Preference ¼, the Ordinary ⅛. *Receded*: Canadian Pacific ¼, and Grand Trunk First Preference ⅛.

MINES AND MISCELLANEOUS.—*Risen*: Suez Canal ¼. *Fallen*: Primitiva Nitrate ½, De Beers ⅛, and Ottoman Bank 1-16.

The following are this day's 1 o'clock prices of the principal Stocks and Shares:—

BRITISH FUNDS, ETC.		
Consols (2¾) money	97⅛	¼
Do acct	97 3/16	11/16
Do. 1911	99½	100
2½ per Cent	84¼	5¼
Local Loan Stock	102¼	3
India 3½ per Cent	107	⅛
Do. 4½ p.c. Rs	71⅝	¾
Egyptian Guar.	101¼	¾
Met. Bd. Wks. 3½	112	⅛
Do. 3 p.c. Scrip	102	½
Birmingham Crp. St.	110	11
Liverpool	112¼	¾

FOREIGN STOCKS.		
Argent. 4½ p.c. 1888	83½	4½
Do. 3½ p.c. Scrip	63½	4½
Do Treasury	94	5
Austrian Gold	95	6
Do. Silver	74	6
Braz. Scrip iss. at [illegible]	75¼	¾
Do. part paid	10	9 dis
B. Ayres 6 p.c.	100½	1½
Do. Cedulas I	39½	40½
Chilian 4½ p.c. 1886	100	2
Costa Rica A	91	3
Do. B	88	90
Egypt. State Dom	102½	3
Do. Unified	95⅝	⅞
Do. Preference	103½	¼
Do. Daira Sanieh	83¼	4
French 3 p.c. Rnts	86¼	7
Do. 4½ p.c. Rnts	105¼	6
Greek 5 p.c. 1881	89½	90
Hung Gold Rentes	87⅞	8⅛
Italian	93	¼
Mexican 6 per c 1888	94¾	5¼
Peruvian 5 p.c.	17 9/16	11/16
Do. 6 p.c.	20⅞	1⅛
Portuguese	65½	¾
Russian 4 p. c. 1889	94¼	¾
Spanish 4 p. c.	72⅛	¼
Turkish 1858	102	4
Series A	39½	40
Series B	24⅛	⅜
Series D	17 9/16	11/16
4½ p.c. 1871	91	½
4 p.c. Defence	101	½
4 p.c. Priority	95	7
Uruguay Unified	72	½
Virginia Funded	44½	5½
U.S. 4½ p.c.	107	⅛

BRITISH RAILWAYS.		
Caledonian	125⅛	⅜
Great Eastern	81⅜	⅞xd
Great Northern	124	6
Ditto A	105½	6½
Great Western	165¼	¾
Hull and Barnsley	31¼	9¼
Lanc. and York	123⅛	4½
Brighton (Ordinary)	154	6 xd
Brighton A	150⅛	⅝xd
Chatham (Ordinary)	22⅛	⅜
Cha. Preference	108½	9
North Western	177¼	¾
South Western	155	6
Manchester & Sh.	90	2 xd
Do. A	49⅛	⅝xd
Met. Consolidated	75¼	6¼xd
Do. District	30	½
Midland	145¼	¾
North British Pref	77½	8
Do. Def.	64¼	½
North Eastern	169½	¾
North Stafford	113	15
South Eastern	125	8 xd
Do. Deferred	93	¼xd
Taff Vale 1888	85	6

FOREIGN RAILWAYS.		
Canada Pacific	76⅛	¾xd
Cen. Pacific Shares	33¼	4 xd
Chic. Mil. and St. Pl	70⅛	⅜
Denver & R. Grande	16⅞	17⅛
Do. Pref	51⅛	2
Illinois Shares	122	3
Lake Shore	103¼	¾
Ohio & Mississippi	22	½
Louis. and Nash	90	½ xd
Mex. Cen. New 4s.	71¼	2¼
Miss. Kan. & Texas	9½	10
N.Y. Cen. Shares	109	½
New York Ontario	19⅛	⅝
Erie Shares	27⅝	⅞
Do. Sec. Mort.	103¼	4¼
Norfolk & West. Pref	63⅞	4⅛
N.Y. P. & O. 1st M.	34¼	5
North Pacific Pref	77	½
Pennsylvania Sh.	56¼	¾
Phil. & Read. Sh.	20	¼
1st Preference	71½	2½
Union Pacific S.	69	½
Wabash Preference	33¼	¾
Do. Gen. Mort.	65	4
Grand Trunk Ord	10 11/16	13/16
Do. First Pref.	75	¼
Do. Second Pref	50	¼
Do. Third Pref.	23	¼
Do. Guaranteed	76⅛	⅝
Mexican Ordinary	38⅛	9⅛
Do. First Pref	113	½
Ob. do. 2nd Pref.	75¾	6¼
Lombardo-Venet	11⅞	12⅛
Nitrate Railway	17¼	¾

BANKS.		
Alliance Bank	15	15 xd
City Bank	22	3 xd
Consolidated Bank	8¼	¾ xd
Imperial Ottoman	11⅛	¼
London and County	93	4
Union of London	40½	1½xd
London and West	71	2 xd
London Joint Stock	39	40 xd
Nat. Prov. of Eng.	55	8
Stand. Bnk. S. Africa	60	1

MINES.		
Indian Consolidated	2 9/16	3/8
Mysore	6¼	⅜
Ooregums	2 1/16	3/16
Cape Copper	4⅛	⅝
Namaqua	2¼	½
Mason and Barry	6⅛	¼
Rio Tinto	15 3/16	5/16
Montana £1 shares	1	⅛
De Beers new shares	20⅛	⅜
S. Africa [illegible]	21⅛	¾

TELEGRAPHS & TELEPHONES.		
Anglo-American	50½	1½
Do. Pref.	85½	7
Brazilian Submarine	12	½
Direct Unit. States	10	¼
Eastern	14	½
Ditto Extension	13⅝	14⅛
National Telephone	6¼	½
Globe Teleg. Trust	8⅛	⅜

TRAMWAYS, ETC.		
London Gen. Om.	133	35
London Street	12	13
London Tramway	14¼	15¼
North Metropolitan	18¼	¾

WATERWORKS.		
Chelsea Waterworks	250	3
East London	211	15
Grand Junction	125	8
Kent	275	81
Lambeth	252	6
New River, New	355	70
S'thwrk & Vauxhall	165	70
W. Middlesex	250	5

GAS & ELECTRIC LIGHT.		
Gaslight & Coke A	247	50
Imp. Continental	215	18
South Metro. A.	297	302
Do. B.	225	30
Do. C.	210	5
London Electric	3⅛	⅜
Metropolitan	4⅛	¼

MISCELLANEOUS.		
Allsopp	8⅛	⅝
Guinness and Co.	335	40
Hotchkiss	7	⅞
Bryant and May	15⅛	⅜
Spratt's Patent	8⅛	⅜
Liverpool Nitrate	13	15
Primitiva Nitrate	16¼	17¼
Salt Union Shares	10¼	½
P and O. Stm. Def.	210	15
Royal Mail Steam	75	6
Nat. Discount Co.	11¾	12¼xd
Hudson's Bay	19¼	¾
Suez Canal	91¼	1¾
East and W. Ind. Dock	18	21
London and St. K.	35	8

The following are quotations of securities receiving attention at present, and not given in our list above:—

Bell's Asbestos	14⅛	¾
San Jorge	6⅞	7
Tarapaca Water	10¼	¾
City and Suburban	9	¼
Jumper's Gold	10¼	¾
Jubilee	6¼	½
Salisbury	10½	11
Ruby	⅞	1⅛pm
Lisbon Berlyn	8/6	9/6
Oceana Land	12¼	½
Sutherland Reef	4⅛	⅜
Transvaal Land	1¼	⅛pm
G. F. o. S. Africa	5⅛	⅜
Exploring Co.	18	19
Rothschild's Exploration	4¼	½pm
Southern Land	⅛	⅜pm
Eastman's Ordinary	15⅛	⅝
Elmore's Copper &c.	2	¼

"*Pall Mall Gazette*" Office,

TUESDAY MORNING.

The secret of the settlement of Mr. Parnell's case againg the *Times* was well kept. The reason was simple. Nobody told because nobody knew. It was only on Saturday that the *Times* finally determined to throw up the sponge. Terms were then arranged, and no one except the parties immediately concerned and their legal advisers had any knowledge of the facts. The *Times*, it is understood, will pay not merely Mr. Parnell's taxed costs, but—what is a very much bigger affair—the whole of his actual expenses. The terms of settlement in Mr. Campbell's case were not mentioned in court but it is said that the *Times* gives Mr Parnell's secretary £2,000.

⁂

One interesting point on which the curiosity of the public has been baulked by a settlement of Mr. Parnell's case out of court is the circulation of the *Times*, which the managers of that paper were, it will be remembered, ordered to disclose in their answers to interrogatories. Not having seen those answers, I cannot give any first-hand information on the subject; but I am told "by one who knows" that at the time the libels were published the circulation of the *Times* was 60,000. I wonder what the figure is now.

⁂

The brothers Martin, whose pottery is described in another column, are a very remarkable family. There are now four of them, and these four divide between them the whole work both of sale and of manufacture. One is the chemist, another the decorator, a third the "firer," and a fourth the critic and salesman. The genuine originality of the men is especially noticeable in the grotesques which they turn out, such as the specimens represented in outliine in another column.

⁂

For a long time the enterprise of these nineteenth-century mediævalists was a very uphill affair. But "Martin-ware" now commands high prices, and specimens of it are to be found in the collections of most *cognoscenti*. The bankers are its chief patrons. One of the Hoares was the first to extend substantial patronage to the Martins. He introduced them to other bankers, such as Lord Revelstoke and Mr. Stewart Hodgson. The latter gentleman in particular has a large collection of the ware. Among other purchasers are Mr. Kegan Paul and Mr. George Allen, the publishers, the latter of whom has some very fine specimens. But the Martins are not, and probably never will be, rich men; for they never repeat a design, and are always making experiments.

⁂

Provincial journalists often complain of the weary monotony and deadly dulness of their duties, yet the following comment culled from a London suburban paper certainly "takes the cake" as a strenuous effort to serve up the weather in a new style :—

> Another week of muddy misery, variegated with hurricane and downpour, is ticked off the total of fifty-two allotted to this simulacrum of a respectable twelvemonth. The rain is refreshing, the gales are good for influenza, the mud can be endured; but a daily existence in a condition of all three which get perpetually mixed is trying, and creates an aching yearn for hibernating in the ooze of a horse-pond.

⁂

His Excellency the Hon. Kentaro Kaneko, the Japanese Parliamentary Commissioner and Chief Secretary of the Privy Council, has returned to us once more. Since he was interviewed in these columns and gave interesting reminiscences of Longfellow, O. W. Holmes, and others, whom he met in America while studying for his LL.B. at Harvard, Mr. Kaneko has seen much of men and things on the Continent. He attended the opening of the Parliaments in France, Austria, Germany, and Italy, in addition to paying a visit to St. Petersburg. Now he will continue his studies of the English legislative system, which he seems to favour.

⁂

The Emperor of Germany conferred on Mr. Kaneko, while at Berlin, the decoration of the second-class of the Red Eagle. In Rome—"delightful Rome"—Mr. Kaneko made the acquaintance of Lord Dufferin, and received some political "wise saws and modern instances" from his lordship. Everywhere, indeed, Mr. Kaneko met celebrities, the memories of whom will be very grateful to him when he returns to Japan to aid in the successful launching of the new Japanese Parliament, which meets for the first time next autumn. By-the-by, Mr. Kaneko is able to set a different complexion upon the "diplomatic scandal" duly written up in the English press. It was said that the Japanese Imperial Prince, who has lately been here, refused to stay at the Hôtel Bristol at Rome, having learned that the Empress Frederick had taken up her quarters there. It was true that the Prince did countermand the order, but this was because of his dislike to formal calls and functions, which induced him while in England to pass as Count Sawa.

⁂

Is there any land, no matter how remote, which has not some trace of Mr. Gladstone? The question is suggested by a curious encounter with a Gladstone post-card, related by Mr. Tozer in his "Islands of the Ægean," just published by the Clarendon Press. Mr. Tozer is recording a visit he paid last spring to M. Phardys, a learned physician in the remote island of Samothrace :—

> One day he produced for my inspection what proved to be a post-card from Mr. Gladstone. It appeared that M. Phardys had sent a copy of a former work of his own (on Greek accents, I think) to the English statesman, and received this acknowledgement of it. Since, however, he was unacquainted with English, he had never deciphered its contents; and as the signature, to say the truth, was somewhat hieroglyphical, he had not quite certified himself whether it was what he believed it to be. Great, therefore, was his satisfaction and his gratitude when I identified the handwriting and translated the communication for him. Many years ago a monk in a monastery on Mount Olympus astonished me by saying that he was aware that the late Lord Derby had translated Homer; but to meet with a postcard from Mr. Gladstone in Samothrace appeared to me more wonderful still.

⁂

An interesting glimpse of another distinguished man is to be found in an earlier chapter of Mr. Tozer's voyages, which one may confidently recommend as a very pleasant book of scholarly travels. On his first two voyages among the Ægean Islands, Mr. Tozer had for his dragoman Alexandros Anemogaunes, who on various occasions had accompanied well-known travellers in Greece, such as G. F. Bowen, W. G. Clark of Cambridge, John Stuart Mill, Dean Stanley, and others. It is of Mill that Mr. Tozer tells us an interesting little fact. He says :—

> In the midst of the ruins [of the Temple of Apollo on Delos] anemones of various colours—white, pink, and lilac—were growing, and I dug up some fine narcissus roots to transplant to England. For this proceeding I had good authority. Our servant informed me that J. S. Mill, when he travelled with him in the Peloponnese, besides drying flowers, had an extra baggage mule in his train for carrying plants and roots.

Mill, as is well known, was a confirmed botanist, and learnt in the methodical classification of flowers what he taught in logic. One of his biographers has related how he met "the (at that time) parliamentary logician, with his trousers turned up out of the mud, and armed with the tin insignia of his craft, busily occupied in the search after a marsh-loving rarity in a typical spongy wood on the clay to the north of London.

⁂

Here is another extract from Mr. Tozer's book, which may perhaps be taken as bearing remotely on the battle of "Murray *versus* Baedeker," recently waged in the columns of the *Pall Mall Gazette* :—

> On landing [at Dede-agatch] I renewed the experience which I had in Crete fifteen years before. All my books—sixteen in number—were taken from me by the Custom-house officers on suspicion of their containing passages hostile to the Ottoman Government. After the lapse of some hours my dragoman was able to recover most of these; but the three guide-books—Murray, Joane, and Baedeker—were retained, Murray being regarded as especially objectionable on the ground that it spoke in unfavourable terms (which it does not) of the Turkish administration of Crete.

Considering how persistently "Murray's" countrymen in high places wink at Turkish misdeeds in Crete and elsewhere, one must think it hard that an English guide-book should be held to be a sinner above others of French and German origin respectively.

THE COST OF THE SPECIAL COMMISSION.

At the Treasury there awaits Mr. W. H. Smith, it is believed a difficulty of the first magnitude in the shape of the draft of a supplementary estimate dealing with the cost of the Special Commission. There is a rumour (writes the London correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian*) that a demand is to be made for a large part of the costs of the inquiry, and particularly as to the expense of witnesses. If Mr. Smith were to admit anything of the sort, he is well aware that the difficulties of the Government before Easter would be enormously increased. Anyhow, this supplementary estimate, even supposing it were only the expense incident to the tribunals, with the addition of shorthand writers' notes, will involve much debate. It is believed that the matter will come before the Cabinet on Wednesday.

Sir James Hannen has intimated his intention of resuming his seat in the Divorce Court and of taking divorce causes on Thursday, from which it may be concluded that the report of the Parnell Commission is finished, and has been sent to the printers.

THE BISHOP OF CHESTER IN A FIX.

The Bishop of Chester when in Runcorn last week was placed in rather an uncomfortable position for the time being. Just as the party were getting into the conveyance which was to bring them to Trinity Church his lordship suddenly found he had forgotten the episcopal key which opens the case containing the essential robes of office. At once all the keys in the vicarage were called into requisition, but without avail, as no provision was made for such an emergency. Time pressed, and further delay could not be made, and the journey churchwards had to be begun. What was to be done? The Bishop suggested that the leather should be cut. This would have been to spoil the episcopal case. Dr. Preston solved the riddle. When the town was reached a halt was made at an ironmonger's, keys were called for, but all in vain. Bishop's robe cases with peculiar locks were not of everyday occurrence there, and a visit from such was never looked for. At last the vicar secured a screwdriver and prised out the two nails which held the hasp, and thus to the joy of all released the important imprisoned robes, while doing little damage to the case. If the Bishop can but always surmount difficulties as comfortably and readily as in this case his lordship will be fortunate. Of course the service was late in commencing.

TO PLEAD IN ENGLAND THE CAUSE OF INDIA.

India is sending a strong deputation to England to advocate at public meetings throughout the United Kingdom the claims of the National Congress. The European members will, it is said, consist of Mr. A. O. Hume, C.B., the virtual founder of the movement, who arrives here next month; Mr. Eardley Norton, of the Madras Bar; and Mr. John Adam. The last named is a staunch Conservative. The native contingent will consist of Mr. C. W. Bonnerjee, one of the most distinguished lawyers in India; Mr. P. M, Mehta, barrister-at-law, of Bombay, and a leading member of the Parsee community; Mr. Surendranath Banajee, editor of the *Bengalee* and Principal of the Ripon College, one of the largest institutions of the kind in Calcutta; Mr. Moumohun Ghose, brother of the eloquent Hindoo who contested Deptford against Mr. Evelyn; Syed Shurf-ud-din, a Mahommedan barrister, and chairman of the Bankipore Local Board; and Mr. R. N. Mudholkar, LL.B., High Court pleader of Amraoti, Berar. All these Indian gentlemen are masters of the English language and practised public speakers.

SIR CHARLES RUSSELL ILL.

Sir Charles Russell, it was noticed, was not in court yesterday when the Parnell case was called. The distinguished advocate has had an attack of influenza, and is confined to his bed, but he is not seriously ill, and hopes to again take up his briefs in a few days.

THE GOVERNMENT AND THE ALLOTMENTS ACT.

The Government have not prepared any amendment of the Allotments Act, but are, it is said, ready to inform Mr Chamberlain that if he can put forward the report of the Committee, of which he is chairman, they will, if possible, take up the subject in the course of the session.

THE CARLYLE SOCIETY.

A very large gathering of members took place at the Carlyle Society's meeting last night to hear a paper by the president, Dr. Oswald, on "Heroism." Dr. Oswald discussed the various ideas given by Carlyle on this head—ideas which (writes the London correspondent of the *Mancheter Examiner*) were found to leave some doubt remaining in the readers mind as to what the Chelsea sage ultimately considered perfect heroism to be. The speaker, however, laid emphasis on the hero's divine tendency, or his tendency to stand, before all else in the light of a priest. The discussion was very well sustained, and there was much hilarious appreciation of the President's remark that the epithet, "heroic," should certainly be applied to Carlyle when he settled down to re-write the burned volume of the "French Revolution." The society's library received some interesting additions from certain literary members, and the meeting was kept on later than usual, owing to the wide scope of the subject.

NONCONFORMISTS AND THE "LONDON PROGRAMME."

The Rev. Thomas Guttery, the secretary of the Primitive Methodist Extension Movement, writes in regard to a paragraph which appeared in the *Pall Mall Gazette* reporting a discussion on Socialism at a gathering of ministers of his denomination :—"We have a hundred congregations in London, and from them all I do not think fifty votes could be obtained in opposition to the most liberal items of the London Programme. We have about a thousand ministers; I do not think there are thirty who are not advanced Liberals. We have nearly six thousand places of worship and half a million people who worship with us; and I do not believe that half a thousand could be got to the poll to support any measure that did not aim to better the condition of the masses of the people."

FROM CENTRAL ASIA TO THE BALTIC ON HORSEBACK.

Last November (writes the St. Petersburg correspondent of the *Chronicle*) a Cossack officer, by name Pyevtzoff, left the town of Bielovetchensk, on the river Amur, for St. Petersburg, a journey of 6,000 versts, or 5,300 English miles. He has already accomplished over 2,000 versts, and has just been met by some Moscow merchants near Irkutsk in good health and spirits Captain Pyevtzoff is travelling quite alone on an ordinary cavalry horse, and carries his own provisions with him. He generally rides about seventy-five versts a day, and is armed from head to foot for protection against robbers. He has experienced intense cold—40 deg. below freezing, Reaumur, and if he reaches his destination it will be the longest and most difficult ride on record. Captain Pyevtzoff belongs to the Siberian Cossacks, a very hardy race. He is expected to arrive here next April.

BEATING THE MALE ASPIRANTS FOR THE WOOLSACK.

In most of the examinations which have been thrown open to women they have competed successfully with men, but this (writes the London correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian*) would seem not to be the case with regard to law. However, at the last intermediate LL.B. examination for honours one lady, Miss Reina Emily Lawrence, succeeded in beating some of the male aspirants for the woolsack, although she has only obtained the seventh place at the examination and the first place in the third class. I think I am correct in saying that the only other lady who ever succeeded in obtaining honours in law at the University of London was Miss Eliza Orme.

THE AUTHOR OF THE VICTORIAN DIVORCE EXTENSION BILL.

Considerable interest was caused yesterday by the appearance at Westminster of the well-known Victorian M.P., Mr. Shiels. He is the author of the Divorce Extension Bill which recently passed both Houses of the Victorian Legislature and now awaits the Royal assent before becoming law. Mr. Shiel's unexpected visit to England may (writes the London correspondent of the *Manchester Examiner*) be accounted for by the fact that a bill similar to his has been introduced into the Parliament of New South Wales, and passed by both Houses, on the motion of Sir Alfred Stephen, but has been vetoed by the Queen's authority. Mr. Shiels, by coming to London with as little ostentation as possible, clearly means to bring as much quiet pressure as possible to bear on Lord Knutsford to prevent a similar fate overtaking his own measure Yesterday he saw Sir Saul Samuel, and, I believe, the other agents-general; and as these "colonial ambassadors" will in every case be instructed by their Governments to support Mr. Shiels in every possible way, such united action on the parts of the agents-general will render it almost impossible for the English Government to veto the Victorian Divorce Extension Bill. In that case Sir Alfred Stephen will only have to reintroduce his measure into the New South Wales Parliament to ensure a similar act being added to the statutes of the colony.

MR. GROVE'S CANDIDATURE FOR NORTH-WEST HAM.

The North-West Ham Liberal and Radical Association last night held a reception at Stratford Town Hall to meet Mr. and Mrs. Grove. Mr. Archibald Grove, the editor of the *New Review*, is the chosen candidate of the Association to contest the constituency at the next election in the Gladstonian interest. The reception last evening was very numerously attended, the large hall being quite filled. A programme of vocal and instrumental music by ladies and gentlemen was gone through. Mr. G. Leveson-Gower, who, on the resignation of Lord Charles Beresford contested Marylebone as Gladstonian candidate, delivered an address. Mr. Leveson-Gower said he hoped Mr. Grove would soon replace the wreath of orange for the laurel wreath of the conquering hero. He contrasted the London programme with the Micawber-like policy of their enemies. Thereafter there took place the installation of Mrs. Grove as president of the North-West Ham Women's Liberal Association. Mrs. Grove, who was most warmly cheered by the audience upstanding, in a few words commended the enthusiasm displayed by the North-West Ham Liberals and Radicals. Mr. Birrell, whom Mr. Rider Cook described as one who, having written such a book as "Obiter Dicta," was sure to make a mark in the House—an inference that by no means—said the meeting seemed to be equally divided between music and matrimony. A great deal at the next election must depend upon the voice of London. It was monstrous that such a city should be represented by an enormous majority of Tories, who were by no means distinguished men. Their duty was to return Mr. Grove to Parliament.

THE MONDAY POPULAR CONCERT.

A dull night and a dull concert affected adversely the attendance at the St. James's Hall last night. Mendelssohn's quartet in E flat stood first in the programme, and was rendered with that finish to which Mdme. Néruda, MM. Ries, Strauss, and Piatti have accustomed us. Considerable interest attached to the début of Miss Christine Neilson, a young American contralto who has been studying in England under Mr. Henschel. She chose as her first effort Brahms's not particularly attractive "Wie bist Du, meine Königin," in which she made a very favourable impression, but was less successful in Rubinstein's "Sehnsucht." Mr. Franz Rummel, at one time a considerable favourite in this country, added not a little to the commonplace nature of the programme by the hackneyed character of his pianoforte solos. These were Schubert's familiar Impromptu in A flat, Chopin's often played Nocturne in D flat, and Mendelssohn's Rondo Capriccioso. His technique is admirable, but his interpretation of quite ordinary character.

A PAPAL BENEDICTION FOR THE BISHOP OF ROCHESTER.

Our special correspondent at Rome, writing on the 31st ult., says the Pope received yesterday in private audience Mr. Brophy, M.P., Victoria, Australia, and Mr. Algar L. Thorold, only son of the Anglican Bishop of Rochester. The Pope received Mr. Thorold with that singular grace and kindness for which he is so well known, and at his special request gave Mr. Thorold a special benediction for his father. The Pope was in excellent health and spirits.

MUSIC AT THE GROSVENOR CLUB.

The music at the Grosvenor Gallery last night was far in advance of the usual smoking concert repertoire. It was in the hands of members of the club, who included Mr. H. J. Dutton; Mr. Henry Lazarus, the veteran clarinet player; Mr. Stanley Smith, a basso of fine quality; Mr Edward Branscombe, a tenor who must make his way speedily to the front; Mr. Percy Ould, a clever young violinist; Mr. Hopkins Ould, and the famous 'cello player, Mr. Charles Ould. The selection of music was excellent, and no less excellently performed.

BRINGING THE VOICES OF SCOTSMEN TO LONDON.

Quite a novelty in the shape of entertainment was provided for the members of the London, Ross and Cromarty Association last night by Mr. George Munroe, of the Edison Phonographic Company. The natives of Ross-shire heard the voices which had been familiar to them in their youth of friends who were living still in that faraway portion of the north country. Provost Vass and the Rev Thomas Grant, of Tain, were among these invisible speakers, and one of the gentlemen who, without his consent, obliged the company with a song was the editor of the *Invergordon Times.* In connection with the pictures of the original as well as the perfected phonograph, which were thrown upon a screen, Mr. Munro explained with clearness the mechanism of the instrument, and its mode of working. He mentioned the name of Leon Scott as having made some progress towards the discovery of the possibility of retaining sound; and stated that although electricity was the motive power used at present, it was intended to use another power which he was not then at liberty to speak of. Several portraits of Mr. Edison and Colonel Gouraud were shown.

OPERA COMIQUE THEATRE.

Mr. H. Gittus Lonsdale, who last night opened the Opéra Comique Theatre with a curiously hybrid drama of American origin, cannot be congratulated on his first production. True it is that "A Noble Brother" is only destined to remain in the bills for a fortnight; but even when the very limited nature of this term is taken into consideration, it is impossible to wholly approve of the transplantation of a fifth-rate drama from the comparative obscurity of the provinces to the searching glare of a West-end playhouse. The piece in question—to which, by-the-way no author's name is attached—has been evidently framed with the object of displaying the central character in the strongest possible colours. "Jerry the Tramp" is a quasi-Robsonian conglomeration of good and evil—a mixture of vagabond humour and drunken pathos. He is persuaded by a very ordinary melodramatic scoundrel to personate the real father of a dearly-loved adopted daughter of one Colonel Leigh. This preternaturally artless military gentleman hands over the young lady to the tattered Jerry, simply because he produces her birth certificate. After this piece of arrant folly—outrageous even in an ultra-provincial play—one is not surprised to see the Tramp discover in the third act that the girl is really his child; nor does the subsequent elevation of the ex-mendicant to a position of ease and affluence strike one as somewhat of a strain on the powers of the theatrical deity who deals out poetic justice. "A Noble Brother" is merely a farrago of very conventional claptrap with a good idea peeping out now and then. The playgoing public wants something more than this nowadays, so it is perhaps just as well that Jerry's sojourn among us is destined to be a brief one. Mr. W. J. Summers, in the principal character of the piece, shows himself to be the possessor of a certain amount of rough-and-ready humour, nor is his acting devoid of power and intensity when occasion demands. But his performance is like his clothes—ragged in the extreme, and his manner and tones often jar sadly. The remainder of the cast is chiefly remarkable for its staginess, Miss Pattie Bell being perhaps the lightest offender in this respect.

It is rumoured in Berlin that the appointment of Herr Von Berlepsch as Minister of Commerce is likely to lead to complications in the Cabinet

Miss Mary Anderson has written to her friends in London announcing her engagement to Mr. Navaranio.

Mr. Herbert Ward, the African traveller, is engaged to be married to Miss Sandford, the daughter of Mr. Charles H. Sandford, of New York.

Mr. W. S. Caine, M.P., was one of the speakers at the Exeter Hall meeting last night, held in connection with the forthcoming national bazaar in aid of the funds of the Band of Hope Union.

Mr. E. A. Abbey has written from America announcing his engagement to Miss Maime, to whom he is to be marriede befor he returns to London in March.

Lord Rosebery, in a letter to a correspondent, expresses his approval of the proposal that every peer should have the choice of deciding whether he will belong to the House of Lords or not.

An engagement between some Italian scouts and parties of Ras Allula's followers is reported from Massowah. The Italians completely routed the Abyssinians.

The death is announced of Mr. Thomas Paul, latterly editor of the *Falkirk Herald*, and well known and widely respected throughout Scotland as an accomplished journalist and warm friend to younger members of the profession.

It has been arranged that Mr. Reginald Macleod's place, as chief agent of the Conservative party in Scotland shall be taken by Colonel Haig, of Bemersyde.

The Postmaster General has purchased on behalf of the Government a portion of the old Cloth Hall site at Leeds for the erection of the new General Post-office in that town. The area of the land is over 5,000 yards, and the site has cost £44,200.

Mr. Philip Falk, who is well known in Manchester and Salford—he lived for years in the latter place—died on Saturday, and was buried yesterday with the Jewish ceremonial. Mr. Falk was known in politics as an energetic candidate in Norfolk in the two last general elections.

Sir John Kirk, the second British Plenipotentiary to the Brussels Anti-Slavery Conference, paid a visit to the Foreign Office yesterday and conferred with Sir Philip Currie as to the new proposals as to right of search of foreign ships, the import of arms, and the liquor traffic, brought up by the French representatives at Brussels last week.

Bord's Pianos.—25 per cent. discount for cash or 15s. per month (Second-hand, 10s. 6d. per month on the three years' system. Illustrated Lists free of CHAS. STILES and CO., 42, SOUTHAMPTON ROW, HOLBORN, W.C. Pianos exchanged.

"FOR THE BLOOD IS THE LIFE."—Clarke's world-famed Blood Mixture is warranted cleanse the blood from all impurities, from whatever cause arising. For Scrofula, Scurvy, Eczema, skin and blood diseases, and sores of all kinds, its effects are marvellous. Thousands of testimonials. In bottles, 2s. 9d. and 11s. each, of all Chemists. Proprietors, Lincoln and Midland Counties Drug Company, Lincoln. Ask for Clarke's Blood Mixture, and do not be persuaded to take imitations.

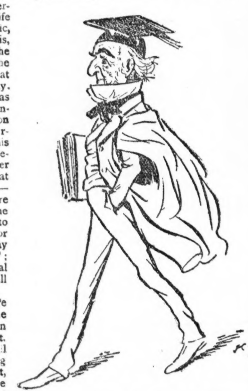
C. BRANDAUER and CO.'s Circular Pointed Pens write as smoothly as a lead pencil, and neither scratch nor spurt, the points being rounded by a new process. Seven Prize Medals awarded. Assorted sample box 6d., post free for 7 stamps from *C. Brandauer and Co.'s Pen Works, Birmingham*

UNIVERSITY NOTES AND NEWS.

I.—OXFORD. (FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

Mr. Gladstone is living the regular retired life of an Oxford Fellow, reading and writing in his rooms, dining in hall, and discussing topics of the day with the Fellows of his college over the lordly All Souls common room wines

Although the words of wisdom that fall from his lips are freely passed from mouth to mouth, and form the subject of many a conversation here in Oxford, that Mr. Gladstone is nevertheless living a private life and will not speak in public, as we are told. There is, however, one exception: the quondam President of the Union is going to speak at his old club on Wednesday. The subject which he has chosen is naturally non-political—"Homer in Relation to Assyrian Research." Perhaps the first half of this subject sounds more interesting than the last. However that may be, certain it is that the Union will be crowded—so crowded, indeed, that we are told that the President of the Union will be obliged not to admit ladies. The subject for the Union debate on Thursday will be "Free Education"; but it is highly problematical whether Mr. Gladstone will be present.



All the Torpid crews are now well in training for the races which will begin in rather less than a fortnight. The boats are, taking them all round, a pretty likely-looking lot. B.N.C. is perhaps the best, if we take into account the unseen but ever present B.N.C. pluck which will probably keep them head of the river. New College and Balliol are good boats, and will at least maintain their present honourable position. Christ Church II. and Corpus may lose some places, Trinity in the first division, and New College II. in the second division, expect to make bumps; and we shall be disappointed if they don't.

The 'Varsity Eight is now getting settled down and well together, the crew being constituted as follows:—

	st.	lb.		st.	lb.
W. F. C. Holland (bow) (B.N.C.)......	10	12	6. C. F. Drake (New College)............	12	13
2. P. D. Tuckett (Trinity)	11	2	7. Guy Nickalls (Magdalen)............	12	10
3. R. P. Rowe (Magdalen)	11	8	W. A. Fletcher (stroke) Christ Church)	12	7
4. H. E. R. Puxley (C.C.C.)	11	4	J. P. Hayward Lonsdale (cox.) (N. Coll.)	8	10
5. Lord Ampthill (New College)..........	13	9			

W. F. D. Smith, of New College, a son of Mr. W. H. Smith, generally coaches from the saddle; but on Saturday Mr. O. F. Wethered took the crew for a long journey to Nuneham.

Miss Fortescue has been making a great hit at the theatre here, and to judge from the number of bouquets which made their appearance the flower shops must have been taxed to the utmost limit.

Professor Pelham the new Camden Professor of Ancient History, delivered his inaugural lecture in Exeter hall last Wednesday afternoon. The lecture, which was exceedingly able, would have been better attended if Professor Pelham had chosen a more generally interesting subject than "The Imperial Domains in regard to the history of the Roman Empire." Professor R. W. Macan, of University, has just been appointed to the Readership in Ancient History left vacant by Professor Pelham. The election is a very popular one.

Professor Loisette's memory training system is tremendously popular here in Oxford. This is undoubtedly due to the existing system of examination.

The Union proposes to become an eating club, as well as performing all its other functions. Mr. Ripley's motion to this effect has been carried at a general meeting, and the execution of the scheme entrusted to a committee.

II.—CAMBRIDGE. (FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

It has now been determined that the portrait of the late Bishop of Durham—"a personal memorial in Cambridge to commemorate his noble character and his signal services to the Church"—shall be executed by Mr. W. B. Richmond, A.R.A., and placed in the hall of Trinity College, when perhaps it may exorcise the ghost at present rampant in "a certain corner of" the great court of that royal and religious foundation, lifting heavy weights.

The bust of the late Professor W. Wright, from an excellent model by J. Hutchinson, Esq., R.S.A., is now in charge of an international committee, and the first subscription list has been published, containing about seventy names.

It is rumoured that the "Ancient Mariners" are about to issue a challenge to the Oxford dons. Any one who is familiar with the Cam's banks on the evening of a May race will remember the eager hush of expectancy that pervades the crowd when the whisper reaches it that "the Ancient Mariners are out," and how every one turns to gaze upon these reverent seniors bending to their oars with the long steady stroke, so often in the olden days set by the late Professor Fawcett.

The University eight seems to be improving. As to the Lent Races there is a general feeling abroad that we are not ready for them. The influenza is always making changes in the crews, and this destroys practice.

The two victories scored by the University Rugby team this week do not come to much. They were against the Old Chiltonians and East Sheen, neither of whom showed much fight. This afternoon (February 4) the Hartlepool Rovers, for several years county cup holders in Durham, are up, with the expectation of having a good game. Their team has been expected to include two well-known Cambridge men, F. R. Alderson and A. Robinson, besides a couple of Internationals, Pease and Yiend.

It has been suggested to the *Cambridge Review* that a society should be formed for the discovery of the former haunts of great men and the plain labelling thereof. Tablets are to be put on the doors of rooms which have been occupied by any great man, whereon may be inscribed his name, the dates of his birth and death, or any other details of interest appertaining. Seriously speaking, the idea is a good one. Some impecunious institutions might turn a honest penny by putting a higher rent on these once-hallowed apartments, while to the amateur cicerone the benefit would be incalculable. How often, when showing the beauties of our alma mater to some belles of the provinces, have we been stumped by a simple question like this: "Ah, you say the author of 'A Day of My Life at Eton' was at this college; now *which* were his rooms?"

There have been thirty-seven matriculations this term, which brings up the total number for the academic year to 985.

If the last link that binds Professor Stuart to the University is to be snapped, it may be well to review the work which he has done in immediate connection therewith. Born at his father's Balgonie works, Markinch, Fifeshire, on January 2, 1843, he went first to St. Andrews, and came up to Trinity at the age of twenty. He was third wrangler in 1866, and speedily elected fellow and tutor of his college. But, above all, he was the founder and organiser of the University Extension scheme, which originated at Cambridge, and has since spread itself with such rapidity and success, after being taken up by the sister Universities. The recent movement of women's education is another cause which Professor Stuart has had always at heart. It was he who started the lectures for women in 1867 and the Cambridge Higher Locals in 1868. Those who were in Cambridge in 1882 when Professor Stuart stood for the University will remember the hearty recognition of these particular services which he received, in the energetic ladies committees which were formed for his electioneering campaign. I have intentionally spoken little of his especial work as Professor of Applied Mathematics, to the chair of which he was appointed in 1879, and for which he has done some enterprising things. It is a vexed question now, the desirability of those engineering workshops, their educational value and their commercial capacities. One day perhaps it will become settled. It would be quite impossible at present to predict any probable successor to Professor Stuart.

ROBBERY AND SUICIDE.—A TRAGIC STORY.

Some days ago a clerk, when entering a banking house in Vienna where he was to deposit 36,700 fl., had a fainting fit, and on recovering stated that the money had been stolen from him. His employer was advised to advertise "on the American system" that the finder was requested to send him 30,000 fl. and to keep the balance for his trouble. On Saturday afternoon he received by post an envelope enclosing 30,000 fl. At the very hour at which this envelope was posted the clerk shot himself dead at the central cemetery of Vienna. It has been almost a relief to the public mind, which has been much moved by this affair, to learn that the man was not robbed as he pretended. He himself embezzled the money entrusted to him, and committed suicide through fear of detection.

LONDON, CHATHAM, AND DOVER RAILWAY.

MR. FORBES FINDS HIMSELF IN GOOD FORM.

Two huge maps hanging on the wall of the Cannon-street Hotel large hall yesterday led rather to the expectation of a lecture on geography than of a coldly business like city meeting. Though the maps were not referred to, the promise of something out of the common was fulfilled, for was not Mr. J. S. Forbes in the chair, and did not he keep a crowded audience in good humour for upwards of an hour and a quarter by a rollicking speech?

In sealing the register, the oratorical humourist said that they had now nearly thirteen thousand proprietors. £64,000 had been a windfall from the Paris Exhibition traffic; but of course there had been a considerable addition to expenses, through running trains in duplicate and triplicate. Resort to the coast and the Continent had much increased of late years, and London and suburbs were feeling the effects of the revival in trade already. He had not realized the importance of the line till the other day, when he found that the South Eastern company had 430 miles and that the Chatham had 183, while the former company carried 28,000,000 odd passengers last year against 29,000,000 people on the Chatham. (Applause.) All the southern companies were wasting enormous sums of money in fruitless, almost childless competition which had a marked effect upon the public convenience. He sometimes read the newspapers, and although not too sensitive to criticism, he paid respectful attention to what he read, and he was prepared to admit there were causes of complaint on the southern lines, but not more than on the northern ones. People living in the north thought the perfection of train service was to be found in the south, and vice-versa. He feared no comparison with the northern lines as regarded accommodation and punctuality. The southern companies had had to render a return of their comparative punctuality. Some hon. M.P. happened to live—and his constituency lived—on the south side of the river. The chairman hoped some northern member would follow his example, for there was a good deal of discredit attaching to the southern lines from want of knowing the facts. The increase of £64,000 was on every item of traffic. First-class passengers were gradually diminishing—this was a sign of the democratic spirit of the age. Everybody now travelled third class. Mass—that was the foundation for great enterprises. Railways must go in the direction of administering a first class pill to the millions, as Mr. Holloway had done. Second class traffic had increased, and they had carried 14,000 more third class passengers last year. Season tickets went on growing also, but complaints about them gave some bad quarter-hours often in the board-room. It was difficult to do everything everybody wanted. A man came and said, "I live at Bickley. I want to go to London. I want every train to stop at Bickley, and I don't want to stop anywhere between Bickley and London. I want to be carried for less, and I want a great many more trains earlier and later." The next gentleman might come from Bromley and would want the Beckenham stoppage abolished. A Beckenham season-ticket holder would protest against the delay by calling at Herne-hill; and so it went on. People were too much inclined to selfishness. On other railways, he (the chairman) found himself thinking everything very slow. But if everything were done in the most perfect way in the world some people would not be satisfied. (Laughter.) As to the labour question, their rule was "eight hours work, sixteen hours of rest, and exceedingly good pay." He himself often worked seventeen or eighteen hours. It was pleasant to see how drivers, guards, and stokers enjoyed themselves—on the Admiralty pier at Dover, for instance. (Laughter.) Let not shareholders believe they were the tyrannous, grinding people they were represented. (Hear, hear.) If there was one company in England whose men were well treated it was the Chatham. Concerning the South Eastern litigation, the final appeal was expected to be decided shortly. The South Eastern Company had been compelled to admit that Folkestone was Folkestone even if called Shorncliffe. There was also a question about a place called Nonington, which he would never have heard of but for living in Rotterdam and admiring the statue of Erasmus, who was once vicar of Nonington. The Brighton and South Eastern, in 1866, went to Parliament for powers to unite—the Chatham went into bankruptcy. Parliament should give power for a fusion of the three companies. They now wasted hundreds of thousands of pounds annually. The Channel Tunnel was unnecessary now that the Chatham had improved its service. (Laughter.) In introducing Mr. George Wyndham as a director, Mr. Forbes said he was an incisive letter-writer on Irish subjects. As a retiring functionary, Mr. Forbes said he had been connected with the company since 1861, and was in as good form as ever he was. It would be the height of his ambition to mould the company for the public good and in the interest of the proprietors. With much emotion, he then proceeded to speak of ultimately retiring, and the pleasing recollections he should have.

THE LONDON PAVILION.

Mr. Hugh Astley presided yesterday at the third annual meeting of the shareholders of the London Pavilion (Limited), which was held at the hall in Piccadilly-circus. The report stated that the gross receipts for the year ended 31st of December last amounted to £50,264, and the outgoings, with a provision for depreciation, to £37,175, leaving a net profit of £13,088. An interim dividend of 4 per cent. had been paid for the six months ended 30th June lsst, and it was now recommended the payment of a further dividend of 6 per cent. for the last half year, making 10 per cent. for the year. The chairman, in moving the adoption of the report, said it disclosed in the clearest manner the position of the company, and said he believed the appointment of Mr. F. G. Gordon on the directorate in the place of Mr. H. J. Smith, deceased, would give the shareholders satisfaction and tend to the interest of the company. Mr. Richardson complained that the dividend was gradually diminishing, and he was also dissatisfied with the entertainment as compared with that of the Empire. The auditor, replying to other questions, said the fees of the directors were settled by the articles of association, and the salary of the manager (Mr. E. A. Villiers) depended in some measure upon the returns. The managing director said the Pavilion had had to contend against exceptional circumstances this year which were not likely to occur again. There were Barnum's Show, Her Majesty's Theatre (upon which thousands of pounds had been lavished), and exceptional attractions at Covent-garden. There had also been an epidemic in London which had affected all places of entertainment. He thought, however, those gentlemen who had entered upon big speculations this year would not do so again, as they had found it did not pay. (A laugh.) Considering that most of the best music-hall artistes were engaged at Christmas time for the metropolitan and provincial pantomimes, he believed the Pavilion entertainment was as good as any in London. The management were most scrupulous to avoid any opposition to their entertainment, and in this way to meet the requirements of the County Council, to look after the character of the entertainment, and, thus to ensure the security of the property. (Applause.) There was, he thought, every reason to look forward to a profitable future. (Repeated applause.) After further discussion, the report was unanimously adopted, and the directors and auditor were reappointed, with votes of thanks for their past services.

ENGLISH, SCOTTISH, AND AUSTRALIAN CHARTERED BANK

The seventy-third half-yearly meeting of this bank was held yesterday at the offices in Cornhill.

Sir James McCulloch (the chairman) moved the adoption of the report, and stated that after providing for interest on new capital, current charges, rebate on bills, and bad and doubtful debts, the balance at credit of profit and loss account was £50,018 15*s.* 8*d.*, which the board proposed to appropriate by paying a dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum on the paid up capital of £27,000, absorbing £36,000, carrying £10,000 to the reserve, and £10,618 forward. The reserve account now amounted to £330,000. The directors' first object was to have as good and satisfactory a reserve as possible so that by strengthening that fund to retain the thorough confidence of the shareholders. There had been great land speculations at Melbourne and other places. At the last meeting there were some fears—not on his part, however—that the bank might suffer some material loss in consequence. But the bank had, as he expected, come out of the land mania with perfect safety. To meet the growing requirements due to the development of the colony the directors had established a branch at Brisbane. Theirs and other banks, of course, depended upon the general business of the colony, and that was now in a very satisfactory position. The pastoral interest was really the backbone of the colony, and it was gratifying to know that they had got out of the difficulties caused by the droughts which had occurred for several years past. They had now passed through one of the finest seasons experienced for many years. The New South Wales Government, too, had passed a Land Act which was very sound from a Government point of view. It gave fixity of tenure to a large portion of the squatters, who would thus be induced to lay out their money with a greater degree of confidence in improving their estates. The agricultural interest had also benefited from the fine season. The mining interest, too, was prospering, especially in New South Wales and in Queensland, and the returns from some of the gold fields showed that they were very rich indeed. Nothing could keep back the ultimate prosperity of the colonies, and with the exercise of only moderate prudence there must be a great future for all connected with them. The bank's business in London rendered it necessary to secure more commodious premises, and they had been secured in Lombard-street. They would not only there have greater facilities for managing their affairs, but he believed they would be able to advantageously let their Cornhill premises.

Mr. James Rae seconded the motion, which was carried.

SOME OF THE FEBRUARY MAGAZINES.—IV.

Between the familiar yellow covers of *Chambers's Journal* there is a short article which should attract considerable attention just now—"Lepers in Canada." It is an account of the terrible lazaretto at Tracadie, and mentions the noble conduct of the sisters of the Montreal Hôtel Dieu:—

> Since the end of 1880 matters have permanently improved for the inmates; and looms, carpenters' tools, a fishing-boat, and several violins, have been provided for recreation and employment. The total number of lepers who have died in the Lazaretto since it passed into the hands of the Sisters of Charity is seventy-six. There were twenty patients when they arrived, since which time forty-one men and forty women have been admitted. Of these, seven have left the hospital, which now contains eight men and ten women. The fact that eight years ago the inmates numbered twenty seven is a proof that the preventive measures adopted by the Government against the spread of the dread disease are effectual.

The *Woman's World*, which has interviewed Lady Hallé, and presents the world with the result, accompanied by a good portrait, is somehow disappointing in other respects, except as regards "The Disintegration of Mormonism," by Blanche Medhurst, who says:—

> Turning up a hilly street, we are shown an old house with three doors in a row, which is in itself a sermon on Mormonism. The first door is old, unpainted, with neither knocker nor door-mat: here dwelt once the old wife of an elder; the second is in better condition as to paint and repairs, but also lacks bell and knocker: it is the home of the second wife; the third door is painted a smart colour, has a bright brass bell and a neat mat: here dwelt the third wife. A photograph of those three doors would probably, if shown in England, deter many a foolish milliner and deluded servant-girl from listening to the fascinating missionary elders.

THE HULL DOCK COMPANY.

A meeting of the shareholders in the Hull Dock Company yesterday passed a resolution condemning the proposals contained in the company's bill as inimical to the company's interest.

THE GAIETY RESTAURANT, Strand.
THE MUSICAL DINNER.
SPIERS & POND have made arrangements with the
CORINTHIAN CLUB BAND
to give a choice selection from their répertoire every evening in the Restaurant!
The MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT will commence at 6 o'clock concurrently with the Table d'Hôte, which is served at separate tables at 5*s.* and 3*s.* 6*d.* per head.
The high reputation of this band in fashionable circles renders this arrangement worthy the attention of musical amateurs. SPIERS and POND (LIMITED).

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COCOA
AND CHEAPEST
IN THE END

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F. C. HOWARD, Secretary.

PRIVATE HOSPITAL for LADIES. For terms, &c., write to the Superintendent, Warrington Lodge, Warwick-road, Maida-vale, W.

IMPORTANT PUBLIC SALE of WINES and SPIRITS in bond and duty paid on THURSDAY, 6th February, 1890.

MR. JOHN W. BASHFORD, Sworn Broker, 11, HART-STREET, MARK-LANE, has received instructions to SELL by PUBLIC AUCTION, re London and County Wine Company, and to close sundry accounts, &c., at the LONDON COMMERCIAL SALE ROOMS, MINCING-LANE, on THURSDAY, 6th February, at One o'clock precisely, 535 Lots of WINES and SPIRITS, consisting of

100 pipes and butts, 24 hhds., 33 qr.-casks Port and Sherry shipped by Cockburn, &c., including a parcel of 75 pipes, 20 hhds., Port, &c., specially consigned to the broker for sale by auction.
8 hhds. Claret.
2 pipes, 5 hhds., 3 qr.-casks Tarragona, &c.
91 hhds., 107 qr.-casks, 3 octaves, 41 cases Brandy, including Hennessy's 1877 and 1878 landed 1879, Otard's 1884, United Vineyards 1878, &c.
6 butts, 85 hhds., 63 qr.-casks, 5 cases Whisky, including J. Jameson's 1885, G. and J. G. Smith's Glenlivet March 1884, W. Jameson's 1888, Phœnix Park 1882 makes, &c.
22 puns., 6 hhds., 15 barrels Rum including a parcel of Plummer's.
65 Cases Claret all in Bond.
Also duty paid—
228 Cases Fine Old Champagnes, Jules Mumm's 1874 landed 1878; Irroy's Carte d'Or 1880; Perrier Jouet's Extra Quality 1884, Cuvées I and J; Moet's Dry Imperial 1884; Pol Roger's Extra Dry 1884, &c.
1,225 dozs. Port, Sherry, Champagnes, &c.

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